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THE
LAUDERDALE PAPERS.

EDITED BY OSMUND AIRY.

VOLUME III.—1673-1679.



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PREFACE TO VOLUME III.

In the last volume I left Lauderdale, in November 1673, in angry surprise at the first formal and constitutional opposition that had yet confronted him. Of this opposition Hamilton was the active leader, seconded by Tweeddale (pp. 3, 17), Dumfries, Morton, Roxburgh, Queensberry, and Drummond; and there is little doubt that Shaftesbury's influence was exerted to animate and sustain this revolt against the system of personal government (pp. 3, 18). To cut the ground from their feet Lauderdale had advised Charles to give redress as to the ostensible grievance, the monopolies of salt, tobacco, and brandy: and the King's commands in regard to this will be found in the first letter of the volume. Still the opposition ran high; matters were becoming critical in London, where Shaftesbury, who was already beginning to look to Monmouth as his stalking-horse (p. 12), was in direct antagonism to the court. So serious was the situation that Lauderdale now sent Kincardin, who though soon to leave him was still his strong supporter, to stay on guard at Whitehall during his own absence in Scotland (p. 9). Of Danby's powerful support he was sure, and Kincardin was active to secure all the court influence he could reach. Monmouth, who at first "speaks very kindly of your concernes," soon fell under Shaftesbury's control, though his Duchess remained entirely in Lauderdale's interest. Oxford,

too, was in his favour. Rupert, while bluntly declaring that he "never was for a faction, nor never should be," gave him a qualified support. Henry Coventry, as we might expect from the friend of Essex, was "but indifferently well inclined," while Ormonde preserved a cold and dignified reserve faithfully pictured in Kincardin's letter (p. 12). Upon two persons, however, Lauderdale knew he might unreservedly rely, the King and the Duke of York. In December, Hamilton, Tweeddale, and some of his friends went up in person to use their influence at court, and helped to raise the storm against Lauderdale in the Commons (p. 26), which resulted in an address to the King to remove him from his presence for ever. The day after this address was passed Charles wrote a most characteristic note of encouragement to Lauderdale (p. 22). Very interesting illustrations of the jealousy with which Lauderdale and Kincardin maintained their entire independence of the English House of Commons in all Scotch affairs will be found on pp. 26, 31. On p. 34 Kincardin deals with the phrase which Lauderdale was reported to have used, that "the King's edicts were as good as laws." There does indeed seem considerable doubt whether the phrase had really been used, or, if so, whether it was intended to convey the meaning attributed to it. There is a charming unconsciousness in the irony of Kincardin's concluding sentence, especially when we recollect that Lauderdale had just proposed to Charles to get rid of all troubles by a sweeping ostracism of all his opponents in Scotland, "and I am sure yow have alwayes exprest that respect to the lawes, and that aversion to all arbitrarie proceedings in the affairs of Scotland, that I am very confident yow could hardly be otherwise in England."

Lauderdale returned to Whitehall in the middle of April. His leaving Scotland was the signal for increased activity in the "party," and in the beginning of May he received intelligence of Hamilton's

endeavour to surprise the Council into assenting to an address to Charles founded upon those from various synods, instigated by Hamilton himself, praying for a National Synod and representing the evils of his government (p. 42). This matter occupies several letters. Leighton, the Archbishop of Glasgow, appears on June 11 to have written to Lauderdale in support of the proposal for a National Synod; for on the 18th Lauderdale answers him in a very able despatch, which will thoroughly repay careful perusal (52), in which he urges the unfitness of any such proposal. The letter in which Leighton acknowledges and at once somewhat weakly gives way to Lauderdale's masterful commands will be found on p. 57. Perhaps a previous one of June 20 (p. 55), is the most characteristic of all Leighton's most interesting descriptions of his own feelings, of his indifference to and of his utter incapacity to deal with the violent passions that were at work in the church of which he had so unwillingly become a prelate. He was, indeed, weary of his charge; and his weariness is finally expressed in his graphic letter of Dec. 17, 1674 (p. 76). He resigned at the end of the year, and was succeeded by the former occupant of the see, Alexander Burnet, for whose bigoted and overbearing temper there seemed likely soon to be employment. The conclusion of the persecution of Messrs. Turner, Cant, and Robertson, the three ministers who had irregularly petitioned for a synod, will be found on pp. 63, 75.

Lauderdale meanwhile received the most conflicting accounts as to the state of the country. An instance of this will be found in the letters of Rosse and Kincardin on pp. 59, 61. Rosse was of course one of the needy nobles who "fished best in troubled waters," and his statements are therefore to be received with hesitation. On p. 65 occurs the first instance of the direct interference of Lauderdale's new duchess, the notorious Elizabeth Dysart, in public matters. Much of the correspondence is now addressed to her,

either by Paterson, Dean of Edinburgh, who evidently looked to her for his bishopric; or by Athol, to whose son she wished to marry one of her daughters.

In the beginning of March, 1675, Rosse sent word (p. 77) of the first actual fighting with the conventiclers at Bathgate. Reassuring news, however, reached Lauderdale in August as to the danger that had been threatening himself; Hamilton's opposition was failing, Aboyne had left the "party," and Queensberry designed the same. In the same letter however (p. 78) we have the first notice of the breach with Kincardin, who could no longer stay in his interest. In all probability the duchess was to a great extent answerable for this, as for the estrangement of Robert Moray and the hostility of Tweeddale. No letters of interest occur between August 1675 and Feb. 1676. In that month we find Alexander Burnet (p. 80) beginning his old work of urging on the government to severity; and in answer to this instigation a fresh proclamation, which may be read in Wodrow, was issued on March 1, 1676. A special secret committee of the council for the purpose of further repression was appointed, and their first report on July 6 (p. 83) contains interesting information concerning the iniquitous prosecution of Baillie of Jarviswood, the whole story of which will be found in Burnet. This was the first time that Kincardin, acting with Hamilton and the party, openly opposed the Lauderdale ring. Here again occurs a long gap in the letters, nothing more being forthcoming of importance until September 1677; though one from Lauderdale to Danby, taken from Mr. Webster's collection, will be found on p. 86, in which he mentions his new device for strengthening still further his own despotic power and that of the Crown against any opposition, "even the bringing all the officers of state to be at the King's pleasure who were before during life." This he shortly carried into effect.

At the end of this year we come to that event which, however little he may have had to do with its first suggestion, must always remain the chief stain upon his dark and violent career, the invasion of the west by the Highland host. Lauderdale came down as High Commissioner in the summer of 1677. In October we have a report to him by Dundonald (p. 88) of the increase of conventicles in Carrick and of the threatening state of the west. On November 8th, Lauderdale reports to Danby (p. 89) that orders have been given to raise a Highland force to be in readiness, *in case the phanaticks should rise in armes*; that the gentry of the disaffected shires had been called together "not that we expected much from them, but to try their puls and render them inexcusable they pretend they cannot suppress these disorders, that is to say they will doe nothing towards it." Athol and Murray have 1,400 men ready, and accounts from the other lords are expected at once. And then comes a striking paragraph, "In the meantime they doe not rise in armes in the west. How soone they may take armes no man can tell; for, as I have often said, they are perfetely fifth monarchy men, and no judgment can be made upon the grounds of reason what they may attempt; and therefore all preparations possible are to be made in case they rise, for the game is not to be played by halfes, we must take this opportunity to crush them, so as they may not trouble us any more in hast, or else we are to expect to be thus threatened by them next year." In answer to his request Lord Granard was ordered to be in readiness in force on the Irish coast (p. 91), while the militia of Northumberland and two troops of the guards were to be ready to cross the border at a moment's notice. A letter from the Earl of Perth (p. 93), who with Athol was within a few months a strong opponent of Lauderdale, shows how the opportunity was welcomed by the broken nobility.

The forces were raised, but still the west did not rise. It was necessary to employ them, and it was determined that, without waiting for an actual outbreak, the Highlanders should be marched into the disaffected parts. In this atrocious outrage the Bishops took an active part. The "suggestions" of these bad men, "for the suppression of conventicles in the west," will be found on p. 95, and should be read to their eternal disgrace. By the end of March the outcry from the stricken country reached Charles in a paper from Cassillis, for which Wodrow may be referred to (vol. ii. p. 433). Nothing but a perusal of Arran's letter (p. 100) detailing the manner in which Charles at first dealt with the accusation, will give a just idea of the hopelessness of redress on the merits of the case alone. It is evident that Charles had been so long under tutelage that he could see only with Lauderdale's eyes and hear with his ears. At the beginning of April, however, Hamilton, Athol, Argyle, Perth, and others, came to London to try once more to overthrow Lauderdale. The daily duel that now went on between the "Party," backed by Monmouth, Shaftesbury, and the opposition in the House of Commons, and Lauderdale's agents, backed in their turn by Danby, the English Bishops, Alexander Burnet, and the full sympathy of both Charles and James, up to the second great attack upon Lauderdale in the House, will be found fully detailed, with many graphic touches of character, in pp. 103—133. Of the attack itself, and of the jockeying by which its bare failure was secured, and the "Party" baffled, a long and extremely interesting account is given by Andrew Forrester, pp. 133—143. It is especially interesting as containing perhaps the only well-authenticated instance of Charles II. being actually in a passion (p. 140). Beaten as they were however in their main purpose, the action of the "Party," dictated though it apparently was by purely selfish reasons, had had this effect, that through anxiety to lessen the bitterness of

the opposition in the Commons, and to deprive them, as far as he could, of materials upon which to found grievances, Charles gave orders on April 15 (p. 112) that within a fortnight the Highland troops were to leave the west.

Upon their return to Scotland the Party, though discomfited, renewed their opposition at once in the Convention (pp. 154, 247). It failed, however, completely. The grounds of attack were frivolous, and Lauderdale, flushed with his late victory, had little difficulty in bringing the Convention to a conclusion in a manner which earned Charles's warm thanks (p. 159), and renewed assurances of support. He left Scotland for the last time in August 1678.

On p. 162 the notices of the Rebellion of 1679 begin with an interesting account of the fighting at Lesmahago, at the end of March. On p. 164 will be found, extracted from the Stow collection, Claverhouse's account of Drumclog, written on June 1, the day after the skirmish, a letter which Scott must, we should imagine, have seen. On p. 171 there is the official despatch from the Privy Council, with the account of the battle of Bothwell Brigg. The petitions of John Kid and John King are interesting, as showing the utterly unscrupulous nature of the severities that followed. The commission from Charles to Monmouth, and the petition of the Covenanters, are in the Appendix, pp. 258—260. On pp. 181—185 occurs the incident of James taking his place in the Scotch Privy Council, in November, 1679, without first taking the oath of allegiance and supremacy. The most curious thing to note, considering the circumstances under which he had left the Court, is the firm and almost arrogant tone which he assumes, and the immediate acquiescence of Lauderdale and Charles in his good pleasure. The testimony with which he left Scotland from the Privy Council (p. 192) is worth perusal, if only for the quaint fulsomeness of its first paragraph.

On p. 201 we have, apparently, one of the false informations in the Bargeny trial referred to by Burnet, vol. i. p. 515; and in pp. 202—208, will be found further letters from the Secret Committee for suppressing conventicles. The letters of the Simpsons, mother and son, pp. 213—217, are very curious; that of the mother, a long-drawn epistle, an excellent example of the style of the old Whig wife whom Scott has made familiar to us, with its quotations from "Ezkell" 7, 16, followed by the hope that if her son sends any token for his sister it may be "a peice of blak flourd gaes, to be a peticot for barbara, for she hath severall li^t culler peticots it wilbe fit to wear above them." The son, who apparently had become compromised in the rebellion, and was now in the service of Lord Radnor in London, mentions little but politics, and in a manner which would seem to show the letter was intended for some eyes other than his mother's, p. 216.

Lauderdale, who had long been breaking, died at Tunbridge Wells in August 1682. The final letter, p. 230, describes the burial of "that noble and extraordinary person" at Haddington on April 5, 1683.

Some letters of interest will be found in the Appendix. The first forms a valuable addition to our knowledge of Leighton's attempt at accommodation with the Presbyterians; while the second is that outspoken rebuke of the old friend of Lauderdale's purer youth, Richard Baxter, to which I have formerly referred.

In the course of these three volumes I have had occasion to notice with gratitude the cordial and ungrudging assistance that I have received from many friends. I desire now to take this final opportunity of expressing to them my warm thanks. In especial I should like to place on record that it was at the suggestion of Mr. S. R. Gardiner that the work was begun, and that it has

been carried on with the stimulus of his continual encouragement. For any expenditure of time and leisure during the last three years that these volumes represent I am amply rewarded by the field of fresh interest that has been opened out to me, and by the hope that to some extent I have been enabled to widen the boundaries of accurate knowledge concerning the career of a remarkable man.

OSMUND AIRY.

BIRMINGHAM, 1885.

Oct. 23.

ERRATA.

Vol. II., p. 202, note, for "Dorn" read "Dover."

Vol. III., p. 73, last line, for "L" read "H."

„ p. 103, line 1, for "Fowler" read "Foulis."

„ p. 124, note, for "Sheldon" read "Sanicroft."

„ p. 219, for "[23242, f. 6]" read "[23248, f. 6]."

THE LAUDERDALE PAPERS.

I.—CHARLES R.

[23136, f. 26.]

PRIVAT INSTRUCTIONS TO JOHN DUKE OFF LAUDERDAILE
OUR COMISSIONER.^a

Wheras ther Apiers Clamors to be raised against the preempcion
off salt now in our hands, & against the Let Tak theroff, & off the
Exseise off Forraine salt set by uss to the Earll off Kincarden.^b
As also concerning the Leet imposition imposed by our Autoretie
upon Tobacco & the Gift theroff given by uss to Sir John Nicolson
for reliefe of the Lords and others ingadged in the publik debts to
Sr William Dik, &c. And Thridlie, conserning the prohibition
upon imported Brandieweine And the gift of the sesours theroff
Given by uss to the Lord Elphinstoun, You shall therfor indevouir
to secur in parliament the redrese off thes three particulars, &
shall give our Royall assent therto, And yow shall leikways
indevouir to remove any just Clamor that hes ben raised upon any
off thes three particulars aither by this or by any other effectual
way that upon the place ye shall feind to be convenient for our
service. Given att our Court att Whithall the 26th day November,
1673, and off our Raigne the 25th year.

C. R.

^a The spelling seems to show that these were written out by Charles Maitland,
who was acting as Landerdale's deputy.

^b See vol. ii. p. 241.

II.—CHARLES II. TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23136, f. 29.]

Whithall, 29 Nov. '73.

I have constantly read all your letters to your brother, and do very well approve of your proceedings for the laying of those heates I see was endeavored to be stirred there. If the Parliament continue in that good temper as I finde by your last letter, in the going on quietly in the right way in the Articles, I thinke you ought to continue the sessions and so redresse those matters w^{ch} may give any pretence for grievances, which I hope will give good example to the Parliament heere against our next meeting: some of those persons who had a great hand in the extravaganes heere were in great hopes of making a flame in that kingdome also, but now they are not so perte on that subiect as they were, and your sone Yester (who comes but seldome in my eye) looks but melancoly upon it: I know you will omitt nothing whereby you may keepe the borroughs right to me, and then I do not doute but this will prove a good sessions: this is all I have to say now, only to assure you of the continuance of my constante frindship to you.

C. R.

For my Lord Commissioner of Scotland.

III.—THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE TO CHARLES II.

[23136, f. 31.]

Holyroodhous, 1 Dec^r. 1673.

Upon Sunday morning the 9 of this moneth, I had notice of yo^r proroging the parl^t of England until the 7 Jan^{ry} nixt, & it so fell out that within two houres after, the pacquet went from my hous to London, so that day by that very pacquet I wrote to my brother to know yo^r pleasure whither I should adjourne this yo^r

parl^t to that time or not. By my brother yo^r pleasure was signified to me, That I should adjourne it to that time, w^{ch} he did by another Letter signify to me againe, And thogh by yo^r instructions to me I had sufficient authoritie to adjourne it to what time I thoght fitt, yet it is a very great comfort to know yo^r minde particularly ; for as I have often said The whole course of my Life shalbe to obey yow in yo^r owne way. Since that time I have pursued clos the easing the Countrey of those 3 things w^{ch} were the onely things I heard complaind upon, I was the first mover of them (To the end it might appear It was yow & no bodie els that eased the Kingdome, That yow might onely have the thankses). That other partie obstruct & delay all they can, which I have made manifest to all the kingdome, & how sensible the Royall Burroughs are of it, Yow have seen by their address. This I conceived so necessarie to yo^r service That I wold have ventured upon yo^r generall instruction to have given yo^r assent to them, But yow have been pleased to authorize me sufficiently, for which I returne my most humble thankses. In the meane time I have beat doune (not using yo^r authoriety but wth right reason & reasonable adjournings) all extravagant motions & all manner of vote except to those acts which I moved & caryed on my self. This cannot be contradicted but with impudent lying, so that none but gross Lyers can say that there is the least difference appears betuixt yo^r parliament & yo^r Co^mmissioner. This hath been all my care & all my labor, And yow may thinke It was no easie taske seing it was advised and fomented at London, yow know by whom,^a resolved heir before we sate doune, & hath been openly consulted & caryed on by those I have before mentiond to yow, who meet day & night publickly where E. Tweeddale is the head & heart, with whom their 2 or 3 Lawyers meet, And the Duke of Hamilton is content to appeare the Leader and the Dryver, yet when yow please all this wilbe smoke as I shal tell yow cleirly in good time. And this nick of time I have chosen to adjourne in, just upon my passing to morrow

^a Shaftesbury.

the two acts concerning Tobacco (w^{ch} could not be ready till to morrow), And the amendment to the act of apparell for releiving the manufacture of white Lace in this Countrey. The act for salt & brandie are already past without one negative. Then assoone as I have touched them with yo^r scepter, I will God willing adjourne this parliament unto the 28 day of Jan^y nixt, w^{ch} is just three weeks after the meeting of yo^r parl^t of England, To the end yow may take yo^r measures & either comānd us to meet, or adjurne us againe. This expres I send to give yow speedy notice, but I doe not desire yow to take any resolution Untill E. of Kincardin shall come to yow who hath served yow heir most honestly & actively, & is most willing at my desire to goe: It was necessarie that one should goe to informe in all circumstances, & none can doe it better. I am just now informed That they have at this dayes meeting resolved to make all their wilde motions to morrow. They will clog the act of Tobacco with a clause against any gifts to be given by yow, but that shall never trouble me, for if they offer to delay the act, I shall onely declare yo^r willingnes to pass it, and so leave the bone in their foot, for yow can discharge that imposition of yo^r self because yow laid it on yo^r self by vertue of the act acknowledging yo^r power to impose on forraine comodities, and that wilbe the more for yo^r advantage. They intend to move against yo^r nomination of Judges, & I know not what other intentions against yo^r prerogative, because they are advised by their patrons Elsewhere (whom yow know) to make a breach at any rate: But by God's grace I shall prevent them by a seasonable adjournment: They may probablie some of their great ones (as they value themselvs) goe away to complaine to yow, And to make a noyse. But I am sure they shall have no authoritie, They shall onely come as privat men, And then yow know how to treat them. * * *

IV.—THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE TO CHARLES II.

[23136, f 35.]

By the constant journall w^{ch} I have sent thrice a week yow have seen what hath been indeavord & done heir since I came into this kingdome. Yow know how a designe was laid to blast the reputation of mee to yow & interrupt yo^r service heir. Yow know who designed & fomented it at London, and heir it was resolved to be caried on before I came to toune. It appeared the first day, but I told yow who they were that onely appeard against preparing ane answer to yo^r gracious Letter with a generall complaint of grievances without naming one. And the wilde motions of E. Dumfreis for a Co^mittee for grievances, & another for Lords of Bills, yow may remember how I stopt their contrivance by not putting any vote, but adjourning.^a And how nixt in order after I stopt all their set speeches wherby they intended to have raised great dust, To have been the first movers of redressing what was burdensome &, as I was informed, to have attaqued the Articles w^{ch} appeard the first, dayly moving for Co^mittees of Bills w^{ch} wold have renderd the Articles insignificant. I shall not repeat what I said at that time for I sent it to yow, how by that means I settled the Articles firmly (?).

V.—THE DUKE OF YORK TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23136, f. 41.]

December 4, 1673.

I had not leasur till now to answer yours of 25 of last month, and by it and by what your brother has shewd me since, am very glad to see some persons expectations have been defeted, by things

^a See vol. ii. p. 243.

going better where you are then they hoped, the same persons have been deceved in another designe they had, which was to have perswaded me to withdraw from court, or if they could not prevaile with me to do it of my self, to have gott his Ma: to have commanded me to do it, but his Ma: had so much kindnessee for me and so much consideration of the prejudice it would be to him to lett such counCELLS prevaile, though the same great man that reported here you had been afronted the first day of your parl: sitting was one of those who promoted it with others. I have not now tyme to say more, but that you shall always find me the same to you.

VI.—COPY OF INTERCEPTED LETTER FROM LORD YESTER TO HIS FATHER, THE EARL OF TWEEDDALE.

[23136, f. 44.]

London, Dec. 4, '73.

I have had no letters from you this post, which I wonder at, to-morrow I am to meet with a lawyer about my bussinesse with Ireton which I hope to bring to a treaty, as to the houses in Aldersgate Street I can adde litle to what I said in former letters, only this morning Robert Andreü was with S^r Arth: Morray and told him that he beleevd the most that Ashurst wold ever be broght to offer wold be 50000ⁿ therfor I will not medle any more with him till I see if I can finde another marchand for them or not.

Adieu.

All that folloueth was writne with white link.

This night I spoke with 125^a having waited those two dayes for ane occasion and was with him in his closett near half ane houer, I offering him papers of Information of all that had past in 78^b he

^a The king.

^b Parliament, or Scotland.

told me he had sufficient accounts already of evry dayes proceedings which were without . . ll reflexions but bare matter of fact. He seemed most to resentt y overtour for ane comittie of greivances and said it was to overturne the foundation of the Parliament. I answered it was indeed named but soon layd a syde ; he tooke me short, and said laydd a syde becaus they could not cary it ; he seemed to have the greatest resentment against 154,^c to whom he said he had done considerable keindnesses, I excused you that you had not meddled therein, he said it was treu but houever he bide me give you good advice and you give it to 154. He called all you had been since upon litle trifles, and as to the provest, that his Commissioner did not undertake to protect him, but left him to ansvere for himself, he said that the Com: had done him good service and was affectionate to him and ther, for he wold be keind to him. He blamed you as the first proposer of the salt which when I was going to cleare he interrupted me with aneother discours, and when I desaired be wolde either permitt you or command you to come up that you might justifie your self and give him ane account of all, he putt it off with saying you had better stay there nou to advance his service. But withall if his Com: had done any thing amiss he wold hear what ever were sent up and be inipartiall in it, he expressed a great keindnesse to the kingdome and his security in there affections. I told him that this parliament had never refused anything that was for his service or what he commanded them, and I hoped and was sure would ever doe, and that persons therin and namly [?] had no thogts nor intentions but what were for his service. He said he could best judge of thoghts by actions, when I told him that you had done him service before, and was still ready to doe, but that you were not so acquaint with affaires as formerly since the misunderstanding that had fallen out betwixt you, he askt hou. I told him that in severall changes had been mad youre advice had not been askt as he kneu it was formerly ; he said he kneu of no changes but that of the Treasurie: I said

^c Hamilton.

some others as filling of places. I forgot to tell you in the provest affaire he said 154 had proposed the taking away his places from him and then considering the charge, which he saide was hange him first and then examine him, I saide I heard nothing of that; when I spoke of the misunderstanding betwixt you, he said he concerned not himself therin, but that he expected you would have a care of his service, then letting fall some thing as if I were here to informe, and bidding me beware of beleiving som persons who would be for the making that kingdome a province to the republick of England. I said I hopt in God neither of these should ever be; as for my beeing here it was upon privat businesse, as it was well knouene and that I never did intende to informe against one of that near relatione tho I had been very ill usd and undeservedly, and that I beleived the intention he had to divert his estate^a wold contribute to the breach betwixt you, but I should never have grudged that if could have kept his freinds hipe; to which he answered nothing but that he kneue not those passages, if you think that I have not spok so fully as I might have you must excuse it, I being a little dasht, it being the first tyme, I beleiv all this proceeds from 4 he having had the same expressions of Provinciating with one who told me, its like he is favourable to 156, but no wayes to 154, if I be not mistaken. For all this I thinke the measures I gave were right, it beeing the opinion of evry body I spok with the rather that you are so deeply ingadged it will be fitt to goe on since you are able to make it appear for the king and countreys interest when you gett a hearing. In the mean tyme I wold have you and 154 wreit up ane account of the grounds and reasons of your proceidur, and make some excuse for the overtur of a Comittie which stiks most, and clear the king hou far you were engadged in the project of the salt, with some insinuations of ane earnest desaire to come up.^b

Adieu.

Endorsed :

Copie Lord Yester's letter to his Father.

^a From his daughter, the wife of the writer.

^b Hamilton and Tweeddale started from Scotland about Dec. 8. (23136, f. 46.)

VII.—THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE TO CHARLES II.

[23136, f. 47.]

COPIE OF D. L.'S LETTER TO THE KING.

You know this honest bearer^a so well & he hath been so very active & through paced in your service here that he needs neither recommendation nor letter of credit from me, yet for his memory I have written to him the heads of all he is to intertain yow upon. I have also presumed humbly to propose to yow what I thinke fit for yow to do upon this occasion, but it is with all deference imaginable to your better judgement. Yow know Scotland exactly & how to governe Scotish men better then any body alive. I do only propose, I do not in the least advise, & when you have considered all the things and persones, how honest they are in their great profession to me, and what their cariage hath bene here, and what they intend there, then do with them and me what yow please, I lay my self & all at your feet, I am your oune, do what yow judge best. Yow know where the designe was laid to creat yow trouble from Scotland, and I am confident if yow had not sent me to Scotland and at this tyme the noise wold have been brought to yow to London on or before the 20th October last which is now defeated.

I have no words to thanke yow for your oune gracious letter to me, my Brother signified to me by this post your pleasur that nothing might be said reflecting on the affairs of England, truely I have been so exactly cautious, that not only in part^t Artickles & Councell, but even in my lodgings and in privat, my mouth never opened in anything relating to part^t or kingdome of England, nor never shall so long as I am here, of this great truth yow may securly rest assured. I cannot answer for groundles impudent lyes. But

^a Kincardine.

I will keepe yow no longer from intertaining the bearer. Yow
know I am, and yow shall always find me most entirly,
Your oune

L.

Holyroodhouse, 9 Dec', 1673.

Endorsed :

"Copy of my letter to the king by the Earle
of Kincardine, 9th Decem^{br}, 1673."

[Copied by Kincardin.]

VIII.—THE EARL OF KINCARDIN TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23136, f. 51.]

Whitehall, 18th Dec' '73.

Yesterday morning your Brother & I were with the Duke ; he
tooke us into his closet & was pleased to reade over your memo^r
to me w^h he understood fuly for most part, & where he did not he
told me & I explained it to him : he was fully satisfied both as to
the accompts are in it, & as to the advices, wee told him of some
of them that required present dispatch, & he did undertake to put
the King in mynd to do them presently, at night wee waited upon
the king & after he hade reade your letter he asked me of the con-
ference I hade with Mr. B.^a I told him that I hade already given
him an accompt of it & beganne to repeat it, which he remembred,
& told us his opinion of that person, w^h is a very right one, & I
find the Duke is of the same opinion now of him, so that I suppose
he will not be used as he hath been if he come hither againe. I
was with the Duke againe this evening & put him in mynd of what
should be presently done & he did undertake to speak to the King,
but the King dynd abroad and though the D stayd till eight a
cloke yet the K was not to be found, so to morow morning wee

^a Gilbert Burnet.

shall waite to presse it all that can be with discretion. The K. promised to have written to day a letter to go by Mr. Moray but that is likewise delayed. I have been to day with L^d Treasurer ^a & delivered your letter & found him busie & desired to know when I might waite upon him without giveing him any trouble: he told me he wold leave all other busines to speake with me, & so made those were with him leave the roome & sate doune with me, I told him I supposed he hade herde from L. H. the accompts of what hade past in Scotland, he said he hade, so that I did not trouble him with the narative of what had past but told him of the confidence yow hade in his friendship, & that what ever hade past in Scotland wold be easily cured if the king did what was fit for maintaining his oune authority, that I found the King very resolut in it, & very firme in his kyndnes to yow; he said he was very sure of it, & that this morning he hade been speaking to the K. concerning yow & found him very firme in his kyndnes to yow. He said that he hade those obligations to yow & that esteem & kyndnes for yow that nothing was in his power but he wold do to serve yow. He said he was sory to find that the humours of people here were still against yow & that he was told that the house of commons were like to beginne where they left concerning yow. I told him that let the parl^t here do what they pleased it did not concerne Scotland, but if the King continued firme, our parliament wold be right enough, he said he beleved that, wee talkt of generall things that hade past amongst us of w^h I found he hade a very right sence of the King's concerne in them. I gave your letter to Mr. Secretary Coventry,^b & have appoynted to be with him to morow to talke with him of all our affairs, he talkt very faire in generall, but I am told by your friends here that he is but indifferently well inclined towards yow,^c yet I hope to find him otherwise. I delivered your letter likewise to the D of Monmouth,

^a Sir T. Osborne.

^b Henry Coventry.

^c The correspondence between Essex and Henry Coventry, in the Essex papers (Ashburnham MSS., British Museum), shows that this was the case.

who truly speaks very kyndly of your concernes, & so doth the Duchesse with whom I talkt pretty long last night, w^h was the first tyme I could meet her. She told me how E. Shaftesbury hade often prest her Lord to your imployment,^a & of his ansuers, of w^h yow know already. I was this morning with P Rupert, & presented your service to him, & gave him an accompt of what hade past amongst us, w^h I found him both very willing to heare, & very well satisfied to find them as they are, for he hade been informd that they were worse: he exprest a great deale of esteem and kyndnes for, yow, & of his sence of the prejudice the king's affairs suffers by these humours amongst us, for that is the point I dryve most at with all I speake with; he said it is a sad thing to see that both here & there men that pretend to serve the King drive more at pulling doune one another then to do the King service, he said he doubted not the K. would be very firme to yow, & there was no service he could do yow but he wold do it very heartily, for he knew yow to be both an honest man to the King & an able & wise man; he said for him he never was of a faction, nor never should be, but wold do what ever the King thought fit for his service. I was to waite upon the Duke of Ormond, but hade no tyme to say much to him, only I regraited that at a time when the heartines of Scotland in the King's service wold have been more usefull then ever, the divisions amongst us hade been so hurtfull to the reputation of his Ma^{ties} affairs. He said it was true; I told him I wold waite upon him & give him a full accompt of what hade past, he said he should very gladly heare it from me, for he hade heard it variously reported. I told him I wold give him a very true accompt, & I intend to do it, & then move the King to speake to him to take heade of giving encouragement to any that appears in opposition to his service upon any privat pique of his, w^h I hope may do good. It will be long for me to tell yow the stories of all I have spoken with, but I have talked with a great many whom I found ill informed of our affairs, & find them very much concerned

^a Shaftesbury's ostentatious patronage of Monmouth did not begin till later.

in the King's interest by them. I had almost forgot to tell you that the K. after second thoughts is of opinion that it will be of no use to seize upon the papers you recommend; for, said he, we know by what is already found all that we can expect to know. This is all I need say at this tyme, but I shall be as diligent as I can to do you all the service that is in my power.

ADieu.

I have delivered all my Ladye's letter both what I brought with me & what came yesterday, except the Lady Talbot's letter & Sr Henry Capell's,^a for I could not get the court left as yet, but to morow I hope to get abroad.

IX.—CHARLES II. TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23136, f 55.]

Whithall, 21 Decem: '73.

I have had a full account from my L^d Kincardin of all you instructed him with, and though this bearer Hatton will more at large tell of my approbation of all your proceedings there, yet I thought it necessary to tell you under my owne hand how sensible I am of the service you do me in that kingdome, and the rather because I see the great artifices has been used both heere and there to hinder your endeavours to serve me, all I shall add at this time is to tell you that you may be most assured of my constant kindnesse to you, and that it shall not be in any bodyes power to do you the least preiudice with me, for I have had too long experience of your abilities and faithfullnesse to serve me, ever to change from being your true frinde.

C. R.

^a Brother of the Earl of Essex, a leading member of the country party. His Parliamentary speeches (Parl. Hist. iv.) merit close attention.

X.—THE DUKE OF YORK TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23136, f. 57.]

December 21, 1673.

I received yours by the Earle of Kinkarden, who has given me a very full account of all things where you are, by which I see how well you have served his Ma: in your station; I wish all whom he employs had the same stedinesse and resolution, and then things would go better here then they are like to do, but now I shall no more but refer my self to this bearer, who will also assure yow of the continuance of my kindnesse.

 XI.—THE EARL OF KINCARDIN TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23136, f. 60.]

Whitehall, 25 Dec^r '73.

By yesterdayes packet I received a letter directed to My Lord Haltoun, & finding by a hint in my Lady Duchesse letter that it was to serve both him & me, I made bold to open it, & found that it was intended so indeed, I gave it the Kiug to reade, who gave me orders to draw this letter w^h I now send yow under his hand according to your desyre. And for what other particulars concerns these recruits, his Ma^{tie} saies yow can do nothing till the officers be there for receaving them. And this is all that is needfull to say in ansuer to your letter of the 18th. So soone as I got your letter for S^r W^m Lockhart I sent it to him, & it found him just as he was taking coach to be gonne for France, & he sent me word he wold write an ansuer to it from where he was to lodge all night. I can adde no new stories to what I wrote in my last, for I have not heard of any new audience these lords have hade of the King. The Duke told me yesterday D. Hamilton was

to have an audience of him w^h I knew he had yesternight. The Duke in telling me of it, said he wold tell me what past, but the devotions of this day, & my necessary waiting & writing hath hindered me, but to-morow morning I shall waite for it at St. Jameses. I found his R. Highnes ill pleased with the respite the King had given S. Jo: Harper, and he said he hopt the King wold hold him to the three or four dayes that he had graunted, & that he wold speake to the King to that purpose. I have sugged both to the King & the Duke what is fit to lay hom to these Lords as their opposing the ansuer to the King's letter, & all the wild motions were then made, w^h though they were not all made by themselves, yet they were by such as have their dependance upon them, that no indeavours could perswade them to have things taken away in a calme & ordinary way, but that they wold needs have evry thing as forct upon his Com^r, And that it was not only evident by all their wayes, but the common talke of their little emissaries, that they wold affront the Com^r. And how much he is concerned to maintaine the honour & respect of his Com^r I left to him to consider, since he cannot stay in Scotland himself to governe it. A great deale of this kynd I have talkt which the King appeared to take good notice of. I shall do all I can, and shall take my measures from the Duke who is your most firme friend.

Adieu.

XII.—THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE TO CHARLES II.

[23136, f. 24.]

Holyroodhous, 20 Nov. 1673.

I doe by every post direct to my brother ane account for yo^r perusall of all that passes heir, but I have not written to yo^r self since the 4. of this moneth. I told yow then there were severall corre-

spondencies & tamperings betuixt some at London & som heir, The thing I plainly saw at first, but now I can say much more. Yow may please to call to minde what I wrote to my brother of the most unexpected opposition I met wth at the opening the parl^t, I little knew then the bottome, all men except E. Tweeddale had been so faire with me, but as soon as I came hither I found the clamors were industriously raised over all the kingdome, & I found the people heir were possest with a dreame, That I meant onely to drive on ane answer to yo^r Letter, & so to adjorne. This I thought I had prevented by my speech, but when they set themselvs against any answer, I was put to looke about me, & by adjorning & appointing a meeting for easing of pretended burdens (w^{ch} I was resolved to move first, & that yow should be the easer, & not they they the movers of any ease), I saw it was not hard to draw away the generality from them. Yet they did in a most unheard of manner keep meetings at one Masterton's tavern,^a (where by the way Billeting was broached, & members debauched under pretence then of yo^r desire of it). At their meetings I found they resolved to make motions for making the Articles insignificant, & at least to make a bussell about it. This I broke by adjorning againe the Parl^t for a week, & settling the Articles to fall on those 3 particulars on w^{ch} they had made greatest noyse. They were so wise as to hint at those motions the first day, & so to warne me, & being warned I was soone armed, for I did resolve not to suffer any such motion to come to a question, but to adjorne the Parl^t till I should know yo^r pleasure. Now I doe cleirly see more of the designe, Pardon me tell it freely. I have great reason to beleev the E. of Shaftesburie plotted long to get me out of this imployment,^b & perhaps another who is about you who yow know hath long huffed at me (thogh I know not for what), I am much mistaken if they did not designe the D. of Monmouth to be employed heir. If they did not correspond with E. of Tweeddale about it, I have reason to thinke

^a This tavern figures frequently as the meeting-place for all political parties.

^b See Letter VIII.

it was moved to D. Munmouth, who refused to meddle in it, And perhaps Lord Yester went up upon those designes, This I am bound in duety to tell yow. You may finde out the treuth in that place. But alas why should they make such worke in a busines w^{ch} all that ever knew me doe know yow may when yow please doe with one word. I never was ambitious of this service, Yow gave it & may with half a word take it away whenever yow please. But in order to this, & to much worse, Their business hath been of late to render my service heir insignificant, to hinder this Parl^t from paying their duety to yow, & to make it appeare that the kingdome is not united to yo^r service. In this the D. Hamilton is brought in to lead the dance; E. Tweeddale was but at first ane underhand contriver & counsellor, but now he hath shewed himself openly as yow may remember I told yow in one of my accounts. He came hither some dayes before I came out of my owne house, & the day before the Parl^t sate doun he dispatched his sone L. Yester to London & came againe in himself And then they appeared publickly against answering yo^r letter & started their motions of greivances As if they wold have the world thinke They wold capitulate with yow before they wold write a civill answer. They thought they were so necessarie to yow That they might use yow as they pleased and obtaine what they shall have a minde to. Yow know D. Hamilton opposed the obeying yow as to the Union, & almost every thing that was ever moved for yow, But now he is huffed up that he must appeare a considerable man, Therefor he is the great Driver; he invites every bodie to their meeting. Some tell me he makes great offers to them. In a word night & day he drives on this designe, & still comes & dines with me, & I with invincible patience say nothing. Some of them spare not to say if yow be held to now, They may obtaine what they please, But if they be sufferd to prevaille Yow will quickly see what worke they will make.

XIII.—THE EARL OF KINCARDIN TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23136, f. 62.]

Whitehall, 29th Decr. 73.

Yesterdayes packet brought me a great many copies of the proclamations against Papists, of w^h I told the King, & offered his Ma^{ty} one of them to shew to any that desired it, but he said if he should have use for it he should send to me, I heard that D. H. & E. T. had been with the King yesterday after dinner, and at night the King told me of it, and that at first he asked them if they had yet put in writing the particulars they spoke of to him, & that they told him they had yet some further to say by word of mouth, But all the further particulars that they spoke of at this audience was against a gift of the wards granted to me. I explained the case to the King, & the King said he did see no matter of grievance in it, but in this I may see their goodwill to me, for the Duke told me the same thing too, that D. H. had been speaking of it to him. I got but a very short account of this conference from the King, but I hope to get more of it, for I am told the King was somewhat warme with them. His Ma^{ty} told me this much that he asked if they had not spoken of these particulars to his Com^r; they said they knew not if they could do it; he said he knew the Com^r had desired them to speak of any thing they knew, and at last, said he, they confessed that at a meeting the Com^r had desired it, but they made some simple excuse, & I found them pushed, Then said he I told them that we had people here that made a great deal of noise of some things that when they come to be examined prove not to be considerable. D. H. said he hoped his Ma^{ty} had a better opinion of them. I shall have a very good opinion of you said the King, but I must tell you that my Lord Shaftesbury did guess very well before the Parliament of Scotland sat down^e of all that has been done since at it. His Ma^{ty} told me further that

^a Shaftesbury was dismissed, Nov. 9, 1673.

he beleved they wold be very unwilling to put in writing the things that they say.

Yesterday morning I was with the Duke, who told me what hade past betwixt him & D. H. the day before, I found it the same with what the two had said togither to the King, that is concerning salt, Brandie, tobaco, the lords of session, & the Mint, with the addition of the wards, he told me nothing of what was said in particular concerning these things, because I knew he understood them I wold not put him to the trouble. He told me that D. H. had spoken of the great charge that the maintenance of a Com^r costs to the kingdome, & calculated it to be 18,000 lib st. a yeare, And besid that how it is against the constitution of Scotland to be governed by a Com^r, & the ansuer was that he knew not the revenue of Scotland, & he supposed that the expence upon it either was or wold be adjusted, And for the lawes & constitutions of Scotland he knew them not, but he was sure that all other kings in the world governed their kingdomes & territories where they could not be themselves by one man, And he thought it much the better way, for that wh^h was evry man's worke was no man's worke, & if the trust was cheefly in one he must be ansuerable, And he told him that as the case now stood, he was sure it was the King's interest to maintain the Duke of Lauderdale, and for his part he looked upon D. L. as one hade served the King well & faithfully, and therefor he was resolved to oune him & stand for him. And what ever the King's resolution should be as to a Com^r, and what ever D. Lauderdale's oune inclinations should be, he was fully perswaded that till all these matters be over there should be no change made in D. Lauderdale's condition, that it might appeare the King would oune those that served him well ; a great deale to this purpose did he say, but I know I need not tell yow his firmness to yow. I wold faine have the affaire of these lords put to some periode, I have spoken a little & am to speake more fully with the Duke about it, for I find him inclynable to have it quickly dispatcht, but I will not move a step in it without first knowing his mynd of evry particular.

I must tell yow that yesterday the E. of Oxfoord came to me in the King's drawing roome, & very kyndly askt me how yow were, & what these lords were doing here concerning yow; I said to him in short what was fit upon the subject, then he said to me that he knew yow to be a worthy & a generous man, & one that hade served the King well, and that those who envyed any that hade the King's favour or that served the King faithfully were your ennimies, & for no other reason that he thought all honest men should be your servants, & swore that for him he wold serve yow with his life if it could be of use to yow. I thankt him very heartily in your name & promised to tell yow of his kyndnes, w^h was the more worthy in him that now many others were apt to follow the humours of your ennimies; I said further to him that I hopt what he hade said to me he wold say amongst his friends & acquaintances, & upon occasion in the King's hearing, though there was no need of it as to the King, who exprest a great firmnes in his friendship to yow. He said he hade done so & wold do so, & hade the day before spoken half an houre to the King upon that subject, and that he was very glade to find the King so firme to yow. This storie I thought fit to tell yow because I got it very hansomly & cordially from him, but it would require a volume to tell all that I have of this subject from a great many persons of quality & worth.

A Dieu.

XIV.—THE EARL OF KINCARDIN TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23136, f. 64.]

Whitehall, 3^d Jan^r, 1674.

I have by this sent to M^r. Forrester three protections which he desyred me in your name to send & Inshbrake's signatur. I send likewise herewith a letter in answer to the letter of the Com^{rs} of the treasury directed to L. Hatton & me, & in it I tell them that I send

them the King's ansuer to the particulars of their letter. Yow will see by the letter (for it is with a flying seale since it is not countersigned, that your grace may do it before it be delivered), yow will see that the King delays ansuer to the point concerning the borrowing from the supplie, but his Ma^{tie} commands me to tell yow that what yow will advise him to do in it he will do, but thinks fit to appeare thus unwilling, & truly he is so to have that money medled with, so in your oune tyme yow may advise what yow thinke fit in that particular. And I shall only recommend to yow to consider if these protections be such & so favourable as that they may be fit to be given out at this tyme, this I am not able to judge. This letter to the Com^{rs} of the treasury E. Tweeddale knows nothing of it, & by the King's command to me he knows nothing of it,^a so it is like when he hears of it he will a little wonder that it should have been done here whilst he is here & he evry day with the King & not know any thing of it. The letter to the treasury & Mr. Forrester were written by advance or I should have had no tyme to say any thing to any body.

A Dieu.

XV.—THE DUKE OF YORK TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23136, f. 70.]

January 13, 1674.

Just as I was going to write this to you, I received yours of the 9, to which I can yett say little, having not had tyme to see the memoire you have sent to the E. of Kincardin, so that all that I shall say now is that nothing which has been done this day^b shall alter my kindnesse to you, and that yow shall always find me the same.

^a Tweeddale was on the Commission of the Treasury.

^b He was attacked this day in the House of Commons.—Parl. Hist. iv. 637.

XVI.—CHARLES II. TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23136, f. 72.]

Whithall, 14 Jan.

You may easily beleevē that I do not want businesse at this time, but yett I could not lett this expresse go to you without a line under my ounē hand, to assure you of the continuance of my kinnesse to you, which nothing shall alter. My I.^d K. will give you a particular account of what was done yesterday upon your subject, and, though it is hot at present, yett I do not despaire when they have taken there swing round, & come to examine particulars, that reason and justice will have the creditt it ought to have. I assure you I finde the honest country gentlemen begin to understand some of the great leaders, w^{ch} gives me hopes that this session may end better then some wish it should. I am cald away, and therefore can say no more [but that?] I will ever be your true friend

XVII.—THE EARL OF KINCARDIN TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23136, f. 74.]

Whitehall, 20th Jan^r, 1674.

The Letters of the 13th came not till this day at 11 of the cloke, wee have had extraordinary raines, so that I thought the packet had been lost. I waited upon the King after his diner, & showd him your letter, & finding him at some leasure I showd him your letters w^h came by Mr. Forester, which he had not tyme to looke on before, for this is a very busie tyme with him. He said he was

* Charles frequently used this monogram as his signature to familiar letters.

well pleased to find that in these letters yow was so much for an adjournement, I told him that I had told him so upon thursday, but that the way of adjournement was that which I was affrayd wold do much hurt, since it was done in such a way as never had been done before, that when he had a Com^r in Scotland he should without consulting him give him a possitive command to adjourne, & that at the importunity of those who were his declared enninies. He said that things were ill here, & wee must not, said he, have troublesome busines both in Scotland & here togiether. I told him that it wold have been very easy to have cured the troubles of Scotland, for if he had but discountenanced men that had sufficiently provoect him to it, the busines needed not have cost him more trouble, that I had often told him this, that he did see it was the opinion of his Com^r who understood Scotland better then any body. He said let us once be right here, & wee can alwayes do that when wee will. But said I, in the mean tyme the party growes, & it may be worse to cure. Then did I speake to him, now that by the letters I have got from Scotland the affaire concerning the Mint is begunne, & that I find by the Acts of Parl^t our standard is only ii denier fine, w^{ch} is 2 pennie weight worse then that of England, & that they have remedie weight in Scotland, so that I was very confident that after tryell it wold be found that there wold be nothing of importance found against the Mint, & what ever were in it that L. H.^a wold not by his office be found to be any wayes ansuerable, and this was all was intended by the clamour raised upon that affaire to asperse him, because he was D. L.'s Brother. The K seemed to be very well pleasd with this, & said he wished that tryell might be made exact for D. L.'s sake, & that there might no ground be given to suspect partiality, for that busines did make great noise. And I can assure you that in this the great strenght of all their malice lyeth, and in this they have more indeavoured to possesse the King with a prejudice then in any thing else. When the Commission hath proceeded further

* Lord Halton. He was disgraced for peculation some years later.

that things come to a clearnes I shall desyre that the K. will be pleased to call them & me before him to heare us upon that subject. I spake to the King likewise a touch concerning the L^{ds} of Session, & put him in mynd how that E. T. hade said fryday last that the Lords of Session were 8 not lawers to 7, & so the major part were not lawyers, I told that there was but 14 now in all, & that there was 10 lawyers & as good as lawyers to four. And this day I showd the King the list, and desyrd that he might heare us upon that subject too. But the K is now so much taken up with affaires here that he can hardly thinke upon our affaires. He said only that he wondered to see such assertions, & wold talke with us some tyme hereafter. I was with the Duke yesterday a great while in his closett, & showd him all that Mr. Forrester brought, & he approved all & promised his hearty concurrence to what yow propose. A Dieu. turne over.

Those things that yow tell I should have told the King concerning the oppositione made in the Pari^t &c., I did tell it very fully both to K. & D. & a great deale more, which I neither have memory nor tyme to write, and many things that are not fit to write. I do what I can, & thinke of nothing els.

A Dieu.

The house of Commons have been since wednesday in continuall debate concerning E. Arlington, & this day about 2 a cloke they have voted that there shall be no adresse made to the King as in your case & D. Buckingham, but that the matters given in against him be referred to a committie to consider whither there be ground for an impeachment or not. This is a great point he hath gained, & it is thought very strang that it hath gone so. His friends drove all at an impeachment & his ennimies at an adresse. He hath very many friends in the committie.

XVIII.—THE EARL OF KINCARDIN TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23136, f. 76.]

Whitehall, 29 Jan^r, 1674.

Yesterday afternoon the letters of the 20th arived; those of the 22th are still behind. I show'd yours to the King & Duke last night, but there being nothing in it w^h required any thing to be said, they said nothing, only the King gave a smile & a nod when he gave it backe againe. I told by the last what is the King's sence of the affaire concerning yow, & I have dayly more & more reason to thinke it will be so. The Duke tells me he is still in quest of that affaire, but I move no further in it then to aske after it from him. Only at the beginning of it, when the D. told me of it, I furnisht him with arguments; but things are so uncertaine, & the K. & D. so very busie in other matters, that I know not what to say. I have showne that part of your letter concerning the vote of the house of Commons, to diverse persones, who are exceedingly well pleased with it. I hade occasion to day to meet with L^d Bellasis in the house of Lords, & he exprest a great deale of kyndnes to yow, & told me that there was no true friend to the King in England that hade not the same thoughts of yow & that he hade written so much to E. Airly; he told me further that he thought the house of Commons wold not proceed to make their adresse, & that he hade spoke with diverse members of that house who were of that opinion; he wisht that yow wold write a faire and civile ansuer to what hath been said against yow in a letter to the speaker, to be communicated to them, but this I only tell yow, but I know not what to advise, the humours of that house are so ticklish. I only thinke that yow may draw such a letter as yow thinke fit, & send it, & your friends here may consult concerning it with the Speaker & L^d Treasurer, & so it may be delivered or not as shall be thought best.

L^d Ranclaugh hath often very kyndly desyrd me to remember his faithfull service to yow. And so do a great many that I forget. I tell L^d H.^a what concernes the mint. I can say nothing but that I watch all oppertunities to serve yow, though I am able to give little accompt of any thing I do, such hurries we are in here.

A Dieu.

XIX.—THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE TO CHARLES II.

[23136, f. 78.]

I am sensible how great your affairs ar att this tyme, & therfor did not presume to ansuer sunner y^r most gracious letter off 14 Ja^{ry} which was a soveraine cordiall against the storme raised against me ther. My frends at London tels me that they hop the storme is leik to be calmed against me in the hous off Coñons, & some adveise me to mak addresse to desayer to be herd my self befor I be condemned, bot this I am sur I can not doe being hier by y^r coñand & cannot ster without y^r ordor. Sume desayer me to wreit in justification off my self, or to allow my frends to say sumthing for me, bot I will doe nothing without y^r command, for all that is votted is an addresse to yow for my removale from y^r person & imployments for ever. The bitter part off it is to be removed from y^r presence for ever, bot when I consider it is ane addresse to yow I can not be saifer then in y^r hands: one wold think they doe not mene my imployments in Scotland, which seemes not to be under ther jurisdiction. I am y^r secretarie for Scotland, & by that place obleged to atend yow, bot I lye att y^r feet, doe with me what ye please. Direct my frends as yow please, for I will doe nothing without y^r order. This voot pleased the faxious partie hier exceedingly, & now they brag I was ruined & that sure yow wold not stand for me. Bot I could easelie have

^a Halton.

confounded them by showing y^r letter after the voot, yet I choysed rather to suffer by that report then to show this letter after the voot, for I will never lay my reputation in the ballance with what may in the least doe yow prejudice, so I was silent. But now S^r Jo: Harper hath told them how gratusly ye expressed y^r self as to me upon all the attaques which D. Hamilton & E. T. maid against me, this hath raised ther fear on the other seid, y^t ye wil continow me in inplyment hier & then they can not carie on thir work, this is the trew reson off sending up E. Dumfres^a to bawle against me, & I have a secret bot certain intelligence that he is by the partie instructed (bot not in writing) to presse yow to send for our lord Chanslour, Register, Advocat, to give yow trew information off the stat of the Kingdom, that they may prevaile what D. H. & E. T. could not against me. It is my dewtie to let yow know this, & and I doe it only by this to y^r self. I doe not suspect that this will have any weight with yow, nor that when I am Co^missioner hier y^e can be indussed to send for y^r offisers of stait to transact y^r affairs off scotland at london without me, nor am I discouradged (from any thing that hath past) humbly to desayer yow not to admit off any mor accusations against me unlesse at sutch a tyme as I may ansuer & justefie my self: and this I hop I may preseume to beg seing thos addresses of my cuntre men which hitherto have been maid against me & my frends have proved rether leik libells then treuth.

I have wreten mor instanses to E. K. off the insolence off this partie & the danger they ar labouring to bring the kingdom into, off which he will informe yow att y^r leasour. Bot I most humblie beg of your reade a memoire I have sent off the remedies which I am sure will cure all & settle y^r autoretie. Mor I can not say & lese I could not say without unfathfulnes, & I lay all at y^r feet,

^a In a letter to the Duke of York which accompanied this he reminds him that Dumfries had been a prime mover in the billeting plot, of which he was now hoping to act the second part.

comānd me what yow please, dispose of me as yow think fit, yow shall always feinde me fathfull, obedient, and most intierly yo^r.

Holyroodhous, 1 Feb^r, 1674.

[A copy in hand of Charles Maitland.]

XX.—THE EARL OF KINDCARDIN TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23136, f. 83.]

Whitehall, 10 Feb. 1674.

The letters which should have come yesterday are not yet come. But though I have no more letters to ansuer, I shall find enough to say concerning those I received formerly. Upon sunday after dinner I waited upon the King, but he was not at leisure, for he went to the Duke of Monmouth's to see his childe who was a dying, & who dyed about four a cloke the next morning. Yesterday after diner I waited againe, & there was waiting D. Hamilton, E. Tweeddale, E. Forfar, & L^d Strathnaver, all standing in a row. I was in feare they hade already ingadged the King & that he should be wearied before I could get to speake to him, & my busines being long I thought it might be disadvantaged by it. But so soon as the King hade dined, without allowing any body the leasure to speake one word to him, he came quickly to me & called me to follow him to his bedchamber (for he dined in his new apartment), so he reade first your letter to him. Then called for the memoire, w^h it related to, & that memoir haveing related to those brought by Mr. Forrester, I hade these papers ready too, and your letter to me concerning the appeale, & Mr. Cant, & some other particulars; it was long, but I told him fully what was in it especially concerning the appeale, & the importance of the preparative. As to your pro-

posall concerning the adjournement he likes it well. But he says it must be done no other way but by yow in Parl^t & that even left to your pouer as yow thinke fit upon the place. Upon this occasion he said that he thought that it wold be fit that this Parl^t should be dissolved, & that when he needed it he could call another Parl^t, but that if it were it must come from yow. I told him my humble opinion that if at this tyme the Parl^t were dissolved it wold be said that it was done to lay aside the Com^r, and therefor, that so soon as the Parl^t should be adjourned I supposed his Ma^{tie} wold thinke fit that D. Lauderdale should waite upon him here & then he wold probably propose the dissolution himself. The King said he thought the sooner the better, & that it was for your sake, & by the arguments yow use for an adjournement that he was of that opinion. Then wee spake of the proposalls w^h came by Mr. Forrester. But the King does not thinke it a fit tyme for turning out any body lest it may make greater clamor against yow. I told there was no great danger upon the particular of E. T. who was beloved by no body, he said it was the way to make him valued to have him turned out, & it would do D. L. hurt. I askt what shall then be done to shew that he is angry at their late actings against his service; he said the world should see that they can prevaile in nothing. I said it wold be hard to perswade the world of that since they hade already prevaile so much. I proposed that he wold considder well of it, & remember that his Com^r proposed this as his last remede, & did undertake for the quiet of Scotland if it were followed. And that his Ma^{tie} wold be pleased to call his Brother the Duke. He said he wold speake with his Brother of it. Upon which I did immediatly waite upon the Duke & told him what hade past (for I hade shoune him all the papers & spoke fully of all the affaire with him the day before). The Duke did very heartily undertake to do his utmost to have it as yow propose, & I shall be as diligent in following it as I can. When I came out from the King, D. Hamilton & E. T. were still waiting; the King cald in D. H., & within a little D. H.

cald in E. T. & me, & spake of his taxation accompts, & gave me a copie of a breviat of his accompt of the last taxation, by w^h there is yet resting after all his precepts are allowed 44271 lib. 9s. 6d., of w^h he sayes the half will never be gotten ; I said I hopt he did not thinke the King was to make these accompts ; he said he showd that because he heard I had said there was 10000 lib. resting. I said, that all I said was that there was 2500 lib. in Sr W^m Bruce hand, & 3 or 4000 in his hand which might be imployed towards the repayment of the debt of the Treasury. E. T. said he thought I hade said 10000 lib. & so I left him, & E. T. followed me out of the bedchamber, & D. H. stayd alone. Yesternight, in the drawing roome, E. T. told me that he hade heard that in the letter of the Com^{rs} of the Th^{re} there was a proposall for takeing away of the comission of the receavers. I ansuered him only "Well, well." Hee insisted, & asked what was done upon it ; I told him the King used not to refuse the propositions of the Com^{rs} of the treasury, especially when it was for the improvement of his revenue as this was : he said he wold speake to the King concerning it. This made me waite till the King went to supper, for there was no speaking with him before, & whilst he was at table I tooke occasion to whisper to him this storie, & told the King what he hade done upon it, & how he never refuseth such proposalls from the Com^{rs} of his Th^{re}. He said he did well enough remember, & should do well enough. Then the K. told me that D. H. hade been speaking to him concerning an injustice the session hade done to L^d Almond, & that he beleved he hade angered D. H. very ill, but told me not the particulars till this morning in the parque : he said that D. H. said it was a hard matter that there should be no remede of the injustices of the session but by themselves ; I said that if he hade understood our law, he wold have said it was that even themselves could not repeale their oune sentences, which are upon hearing of parties, but that this was not hard but wold be much harder if it were otherwise, for then there wold be no end of law sutes. But the K. gave him a snapper ansuer. My Lord, said

he, What yow say in this is as ill as any thing yow have said lately in the parl^t, and I beleve nothing will satisfie yow except the judges be all of your ounce choosing. Then the K. told me that he hade been speaking to him that E. Cassils & another lord whom the King could not remember nor I could not helpe him to guesse (I gussed Eglington, Glencairne, Bargainie, but it was none of these), that, I say E. Cassils & this other lord should be of the privie councill of Scotland. No, my Lord, said the King, neither he nor no man that hath behaved himself as he hath done at this tyme shall be upon the councill. These were pretty smart things, and gives me good hopes of what is to come.

Last night L^d Obrayan ^a came to me, & told me he hade heard from Scotland that the King had recalled his warrand. I told him he hade, & so pulld out of my pocket the Com^{rs} of the Th^{ries} letter to me concerning that affair & showd it him. Then he told me that I was to be summoned before the committie. I told him if I was I should aske the K. what I was to do. This morning I got the summons w^h I carried to the King, and showd him. I told the K. that since the order did not tell me concerning what affaire it was, I thought it wold be fit for me to appeare, but if they askt me any thing concerning Scotish affairs I wold tell them that I could not ansuer to them in Scots affairs. The K. thought this was right. But I went to the doore of the house of Commons, & sent in for M^r Secretary Coventrie, who came presently to me. I told him the case, & askt his advice, & he was just of the oppinion I have told yow. So this afternoon I was at the committie, where I was civily used ; I hade a chaire set me at the upper end of the table by S^r Trever Williams, the chairman, when the chairman beganne to speake to me. I told him that though there was mistakes of my name & designationes in their summons, yet since I judged that I was the persone they designed to speake with I hade past over these ceremonies. Then he beganne to aske me if I knew of any inventar of the writings of

^a O'Brien.

the estate of Lenox or something to that purpose. I told that I hade come to waite upon them not knowing what they were to aske of me, but since they asked questions concerning affairs of Scotland I must tell him that I could not ansuer him; that since they could pretend no jurisdiction over Scotland, I could not be ansuerable when I should returne to my oune contrie if I should ansuer to a comittie of the Parl^t of England any affaire which was only proper for Scotland. I was desyred to withdraw till they considered my ansuer, w^h I did, then I was cald in againe, & told that the Comittie wold report to the house my ansuer. There was two interogators in the end, to w^h I was willing to ansuer; they concerned not scots affairs. They were if I knew who hade made the complaint to the King of the L^d Obryan, and who it was, & something to this purpose, to these I ansuered that I did not know, & so I was dismist, but before I came away I told them that though in duty to my contrie I could not ansuer them as a comittie the questions they askt of me, yet if any of them hade a mynd to be informed, as a gentleman I wold not refuse them at another place. I was very sure to make appeare to any that wold be at the pains to be informed of that particular that the L^d Obryan hade no reason to complaine, even though it were to the Parl^t of Scotland. I write this in greate hast, & I think I shall not be able to write to any body els, because I am to waite upon the corps of the E. Duncaster to Henry the 7ths chappell, & am waiting evry moment to be called. Only by the Duchesse of Monmouth's command I write to my Lady Wemys, I have not so much tyme as to reade this over.

A Diew.

Last night the peace with the Stats gen^{ls} of the united provinces was signed here, & I thinke it is gonne this day to Holland for the ratification. This I hope shall helpe us to more quiet at home. The house of Commons are upon a bill to make it high treason to raise or to pay money but by act of Parl^t, and the house of Lords

had a strange motion made amongst them to day that none should be capable to succeed to the crowne that were of the popish religion. It was moved by E. Carlile, seconded by V. Halifax, & urged by E. Shaftesbury, but finding it disgustfull to the house he changed about againe, & brought in another matter.

A Diew.

XXI.—THE EARL OF KINCARDIN TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23136, f. 91.]

Whithall, 12 Feb. 1674.

After I had sealed my packet I bethinke myself of a passage that I forgot to write w^h is that yesterday in the house of Commons the militia of Scotland, w^h they call an armie, was spoken of as a grivance in regard of the words of the act, *w^h forces shall be ready to march*, &c. Upon this occasion your name was amongst them againe: they did nothing upon it, but referred it to a committie w^h is to report to morow. They say it is against an act of union made in K. James' tyme, in the 4 yeare of his reigne^a; I know L^d Advocat hath the English statut booke, & if he have it not it may be sent for to Culros for I brought it lately from London. I have not seen this act but they say it is concerning discharging all forces to go from the one kingdome to the other. Nay, it is talkt as if they intend to find this treason against yow; but it is but wild stories, & I cannot imagin that they will take any notice of it at all, especially that they can find any thing out of it against yow, who was not Com^r at the parl^t w^h made it. The other act w^h was made in the first session of this parl^t when yow was Com^r, in the narative repeats the same wordes. But that act was made only to confirme the actings of the councill which related to the former act. Evry

^a He was attacked on this ground in the following year. See Parl. Hist. iv. p. 684. The Act was for the repeal of the laws hostile to Scotland, on condition that the Scottish Parliament should pass a similar Act.

body wonders here that yow have in all this tyme said nothing in ansuer to the accusation concerning the words said in Councell *that the Kings edicts are as good as Lawes*. This is the only thing needs ansuering, for it is that w^h only held weight with the house of Commons, because it is proved. Your friends know not what ansuer to give, they easily suppose that words may have a good or a bad sence by the occasion they are spoken upon, by words said before or after w^h may explaine it, for no body doubts but the King's proclamations w^h are according to law, or not against law, are binding enough so as to inferre punishment against the transgressors or contemners of it. Edicts is pretended to be a Scottish word, but I am sure it hath never been so in my tyme, & I never heard yow use it. And I am sure yow have alwayes exprest that respect to the lawes, and that aversion to all arbitrarie proceedings in the affairs of Scotland, that I am very confident yow could hardly be otherwise in England.

A Diew.

XXII.—THE EARL OF TWEEDDALE TO LIEUTENANT-GENERAL DRUMMOND.*

[23136, f. 96.]

SIR,

21 Febr. 1674.

Yow will certainly blame me for detaining yow on uedensday when yow doe not overtake the Duk untill he be at Duncaster, bot I have not told him that it uas past seaven a cloak in the morning before yow partid on Thursday, sinc which time there hes littel passid worth uritting. The conditione of Irland as to the renew, payment of the forcis ther, beeing before the commons, uho have comittid it. The Lord Huntingtour his electione is cast, & Sr Samuel Bernardistin hes caryed it by 6 or 7 wots. The bil

* Apparently an intercepted letter.

agains levying money bot by consent of parl: was brought in to day, And one read making it treasone, & a nother that uhosoever shal mary a papist shal lose his imployment in court & country. I know not yitt uhat the Lords have doun, bot uill uritt as heir to the Duk. I find our Act of Supremacy is, as Mr. Stewart said, in your chamber, & I think it may ueal deserve a Rewew & consideratione; bot of thes matters I shal say furdur by Boniemoon; soe uishing yow a happy journey, I ain

Your most Affectionat
humble servant.

Ebr

Lewtenant-General Drummond.

XXIII.—THE DUKE OF YORK TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23136, f 505.]

Feb. 24, 1674.

I have deferd writing to you till now that his Ma: has taken all his messurs for Scotland, which he could not well do till he had done what he has done this day, which is proroging the Parliament till November,^a it was high tyme to do it; they growing every day higher then another. You will receve from the E. of Kinkardin an account of all things els, so that I shall say no more, but that I hope it will not be long before we shall see you here at London, and then you will find me still the same to you.

JAMES.

^a The design of doing this was concealed even from the Ministers most in confidence until the last moment.

XXIV.—THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE TO CHARLES II.

[23186, f. 115.]

I forbore by last post the returning to yow my most humble thanks for yo^r most obleidging Instructions concerneing yo^r Parliam^t here, becaus I intend an Expres Pacquet for receiving yo^r co^mmands in order to relieving what may be burdensome here ; But this will take 2 or 3 dayes time, because I will digest it well : Therefore I can no longer delay this duty in acknowledgeing my joy for yo^r prorogueing yo^r Parliam^t of Scotland, where mad motions were prepared against yo^r Service, but yow have like yo^r selfe dasht them in a moiment, and laid a foundation for restoreing your authority here, w^{ch} was industriously shaken in all the corners of this kingdome. Give me leav to acknowledge my great sence of your grace & favor to me in the way of it, yet most of all for honoring me with a co^mmand to waite upon yow (which is the thing in this world I desire most). As soon as the weather will allow it I shall come away, and when it shall please God that I have the hap-pines to see yow, yow shall find me readier then all your Enemies to rid yow of the trouble of Scots Parliaments, w^{ch} I swear are now useles at the best. This I am obleidged to say because you know I have been suggested ambitious to continue in this imployment. By last post I informed E. Kincardin how vainly the Partie came in to this Towne, & how insolently they slighted your Co^mmissioner. The contempt was no wayes to me (for they came all to my chamber to me the night before), but it was a premeditated one against my character: They went up with a Parade of 9 or 10 Coaches (diverse of them Hackney Ones) They were gone halfe an houre before they knew of any adjournement (for I sayd nothing of it till Lord Chan^cellor came to me to attend me to the House). Then I shew him your Instruction, and he immediatly sent away S^r W^m Bruce to give D. Hamilton notice of it.

Yet I bore it so fairly that yesterday I went solemnly to give D. Hamilton a returne of his visite. Hee told me news that Mr. Powell of the House of Coñmons had got the Survivance of the Master of the Rolles place, and, lawghing, said that he had got a good sume of money besides, I said not one word : but his Grace & the Partie say yow have broken your word to them, for yow promised not to adjourne, but after some dayes to dissolve our parliament ; many have told me this, but I would not have put it under my hand if I had not a good warrant for it. Amongst others the Arch. Bp. of S^t Andrews told me that D. Hamilton said to him That yow had promised to him not to adjourne for some time, but then to dissolve this Parliament, and he makes no bones to charge you with it to divers others.

This morning (by an Express pacquet) your coñmands were browght to me for proclameing the peace, and thogh the Councell was appointed to meet here in this afternoone, yet I would not loose a minute, and imēdiatly I warned the Councell to meet here in your Palace ; I ordered all the Solemnities to be made ready, and before noone the peace was here proclamed with greatest solemnity. The E: of Tweeddale does yow much mischeefe there & here, Yow will I hope dispatch him when yow see it fit, and not admitt of more addresses from this party here, Till I be so happy as to see yow, and then let them come when they please. Of this I have said more to the E: of Kincardin, so I shall trouble yow no more this night. God preserv yow and blesse yow, I am & ever will be most faithfully and

Intirely yo^{rs},

Holyroodhouse, 5th March, 1674.

XXV.—THE DUKE OF HAMILTON TO THE EARL OF TWEED-DALE.^a

[23136, f. 128.]

Edr, 24 March, 1674.

Yours of the 17 instant I have received. Yeasterday morning an extraordinary Councill was called, wher a letter from his Ma^{ty} was read ordering a proclamation for the discharg of all bygone ces & other burdings layed preceeding 1660 in the time of the troubles, The arrears of the 2 of ten & ordenar Taxation imposed in 1633, The annuities of tenths resting oueing preceeding 1660, & all penall statuts, as I dout not but yow will see by the letter itself, tho it seams befor it was sent yow knew nothing of it, as what was my Interest in it, The injustice & dangerousenes of the preparative was so much considered by every body that it was generally said that it was so far from a faver done the Nation that before it past so the nation had better pay that Taxation over againe, & it was hard to see that ther wold be no end in procureing letters under his Ma^{ties} hand contrare to the fundamentall laues of this & all other nations, as yow will more fully see by a copy of my petition to the Councill & of a signed opinion of the best Lauers in this nation the principall wherof I have in keeping, the petition & opinion being produced in Councill this day & the hot debates was yesterday about it forced such ane exception of my right & to continew in execution of it, that it clearly demonstrats the unjustice of the representation to his Ma^{ty}, & how litle the benefit the people has by the proclamation as to that part of it, & how much his Ma^{ties} authority is abused by such indereet wayes, yet such is the confidence of some that they have broght in a letter of thanks to his Ma^{ty} which was past this day in Councill wherein, under the pretence of thanking his Ma^{ty} for his favers in discharging ther things, they have

^a Evidently an intercepted letter.

highly complemented his Com^r in such tearms as I thought was not safe, beeng they expressed things in it that looked like prelimitating the parlament, & declaring what was orderly & what was not of the grevancis that was broght in to the parlament as yow will easely discover by the sight of the letter it self, & that it is ane unjust representation of the Comissioner proceedor w^h the parlament made, that the Earles of Morton, Roxbrough, Dunfries & Queensbery, Lt.-Gen. Drumond, & my self not onely dissent from it but refus to sing it, and desired the Clerk of the Councill to marke in the coun-cill's books, least wee might be misrepresented, that our doeing so was not, but wee was clear as to the first part of the letter & willing to go as great a length as any in expressing our thankfullness & dutie to the King, but for that part concerning the Comissioner wee thought it both ane unjust & unwarrantable representation wherein the king was abused & the parlament incroached on, for wee had good reason to thinke the parlament wold be of a contrare judgement, & it had been much properer for them to have expressed to the king what was the Com^r carradge in it, then for the Councill. The Chancelor when he signed the letter declared likewayes that as to the first part of it he was clear in it as every on ther was, but as to that part concerning the Com^r he differed as others did in his opinion, & that he signed the letter as to that part onely as a duty on him as chancelor it being caried by votes, the heats & debates wee have had this day in the whole proceedor of this affair I can not expres to yow, & how much more thes strange methods the Com^r takes does prejudice his Ma^{ties} service that for my ouen part I am confounded what to say or thinke for it apears to cary on his ouen desings he will expose all to ruin & destruction, & to the derission of the very Comons he has apointed the magistrats of Ed^f in ther Robs to attend the proclamation with hundereds of Halverts for ther gards & they say such other solemnities as was scarce knouen in this city befor, I need not desire yow to be bussie w^t our friends to interpose w^t his Ma^{tie} not to be abused w^t ther things, or to intertane a worse opinione of us that does not go along in such

things, which can not but tend extreemly to his M^{ties} disservice how far ever the contrare may be pretended, & for my ouen part so long as my blood is warme none shall be faithfuller to him, & I am sure I can not do him better service than what I do in this, as I dout not but time will clearly evince. Adiew.

XXVI.—THE EARL OF KINCARDIN TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23136, f. 131.]

Whitehall, 11th Ap: 1674.

I have not written since the 30 March, for ever since then I have been at Newmarket, & there was nothing there but horse-races & hunting to be spoken of, Till this weeke that I receaved yours of the 31 Mar: & 2^d Apr. & upon sunday I receaved the packet directed to E. Arlington, of w^h I told the King & the Duke, & finding they said nothing in it but remarkes of the correspondence, I sent the letter hither upon Monday to E. Arlington, & upon tuesday he sent a letter from D. H. to the King, w^h no doubt had been inclosed in that packet, for it was like it in volume. His Ma^{tie} showd it me upon wednesday without my asking of it or knowing the least of it, & said in giving it to reade, there is news for yow, laughing. So I went aside & reade it all over. It is a long letter, full of great professions of loyalty, and regraiting that the parl^t did not sit that he might have made appeare his indeavours to have calmed or quieted these humours, which have since groune worse by the disapoyntments they have met with. And sayes that there are some things yet to be rectified w^h cannot be otherwise done but by a parl^t. He tells likewise that he is affraid he may be misrepresented to his Ma^{tie} upon the accompt of refusing to signe a letter from the Councell to the King, & that there is no body in the world will be more ready to hasard their

lives & fortunes in his Ma^{ties} service than he & some others who refused to signe that letter, & that some of those who did signe it declared they did it in a sence w^h he & those others could not find the words wold beare. He tells that he supposes that his Ma^{tie} hath been misinformed concerning his interest, & that of his familie, in the matter of the taxations, & that it may appeare now very easily since upon his adresse to the councell the councell hade rectified it. And proposes that he & some others may come to his Ma^{tie} to be heard in the presence of the D. of Lauderdale. I touched all these heads to the King, & told him the stories I hade got out of the naratives of the — hade been debased & altered in the letter, & how that yow went out of the Councell when they went to the debate upon the letter, all which will be better matter of talke then for writting. Upon reading of your two last letters I toke occasion to speake to the King of what yow write concerning the stopping of diverse persones of quality to come hither for feare of creating trouble to the King, and that yet D. H. was desyring to come to make more noise, upon which the King said he wold not have him come here at this tyme, for it could do nothing but make trouble & noise & do hurt here as well as in Scotland; and the Duke promised to be his remembrancer to keep him to this resolution. The Duke forgot to bring the naratives to Newmarket, so I wanted them there where I thought to have had use of them.

I hope to heare from yow by the way of your posts. I suppose it will be towars the 28 or 29 ere yow be here, because good fryday & Easter fall in your tyme. I am weary & can say no more.

Adiew.

I pray God send yow a good journey.

XXVII.—WILLIAM SHARP TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23136, f. 136.]

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

I have in command from the Earles of Atholl, Argyll, Murray, and Linlithgow to wreat to your Gr/ the words following, At coming to this place after pairting with your Gr/ from discourses with severals here and otherwayes, they understood that upon notice of his Ma/ late Letter and other letters from London to the Duke of Hamilton divers had been with him at Hamilton where it wes Resolved that all of their pairtie and relations should be written to, and desired to keep the meeting of the Councill here at this tyme, to which the present condition of affairs by the so numerous and frequent conventicles & other disorders in so many places should be represented as of such danger to the peace of the Countrey that forthwith His Majestie wes to be acquainted, Intending no doubt by some of their own number and by warrant from the Councill; And as a formall rise to this, besides what wes to be sayed by themselves, Indecavours had been used to imploye their fittest instruments at some Synods sitting last week in severall places here to move the drawing of addresses in wreat condescending upon the present disorders, injuries, discouragements, fears, & certain imminent dangers, and desyring speedie redress & protection, and as the most proper remedie for all a generall convocation & nationall synod. The design of the Nationall synod being discovered by some of the synod of this place it was opposed and not caried, bot the address in the other pairt agreed to, and no doubt wes made of some paper from Glasgow & some other synods, Yet they could not belev there wes any thing in this design till on Tusday last they were surprised to find such a number of the members of the Councill & others come to toun in this tyme of vacance not ordinaire. Yesterday befor noon the Councill mett, 21 at the board, The first

business moved was the addresses from the two Synods of Edinburgh and Glasgow, no other being come in, they were read, first spoke to by Duke Hamilton and much pressed that it being a matter of so great concern His Majesty should be presently acquainted with all and a full and true representation made of all, this was seconded by others, but all answered, and after severall discourses and answers, the Chancellour speaking plain enough, it was agreed that the matter was to be well considered, and the disorders to be helped, but to make noise by express acquainting his Majesty from the Councill when it was in their power to put to execution the good standing Lawes against any present disorder was not fitt at such a tyme, better doe the work & then let his Majesty know of their doeing their dutie, and now as to the present matters before them the address from the Synod of Edinburgh was generall, when the particulars should be knowne particular answer was to be given, That from the Synod of Glasgow was in some things particular, and required particular answer, and some of the transgressors were already imprisoned, The Case was whether the particulars of both should be considered by a Committee or full Councill ; by Vote it was carried full Councill, and so adjourned till 3 a clock in the afternoon, there was no haist made for the meeting till 4, Then the particulars were considered, and after speaking fullie to all, It was ordered that the persons complained upon should be all cited to appear before the Councill on the 2^d Thursday of June next except these who were already declared fugitives, and then the case was To Represent presently to the King by a publick address from the Councill, or delay till they should see what effects their Indeavours should have against first meeting of the Councill in June next, and not now to give his Majesty the trouble of ane address about disorders here, not doubting but some by this have been designing noise may be made in the three kingdoms at this tyme, which they thought so verie unfit and prejudiciall to his majesties service, having good hope they may be remedied otherways, To this severals spoke, L^d Chancellour had a speech much for a present representing, but they insisted for doeing their present

dwetic, adding that for severall years past they had experience that the frequencie of numerous conventicling did rise and fall according to the humors of some hot headed people and other causes, and it wes not to be doubted bot at this tyme the present Insolencies were much occasioned by the noise of the divisions amongst themselves, which they hoped ere long should be wele cured & removed, & then the disorderlie practises would quicklie be seen to cease. It were fitt his majestic knew the present condition, bot there were other wayes for this then ane open Councell representation as if without his Majesties new commands they were not able to secure the executing of good Lawes against any disorders: others having spoken to this further a present representation wes by vote waved. Then the D. of Hamilton moved the Post master here might be examined about some Letters given in and sent for and from London, and no accompt had of them, which wes a great Injurie and of dangerouse consequence. It wes ansuered he wes Lyable to the post master generall who would take care to punish if any offence in this wes. The Chancellour spoke to it again, and then it was Remitted to the Register and advocat to examin the mater and Report. Then the Councell cam to speak of privat business before them, and it being Late they adjourned till this fornoon, and having made what dispatch they could of them adjourned till first thursday of June nixt, against which tyme they hope for his ma/ further commands, the taking of some effectuall course being so verie necessarie for the present Insolencies are indeed verie high & insufferable. They have well observed the Indeavours & expectations of some at this tyme who no doubt will take care to haisten ane accompt of their way by some means or other to his majestic, and that they might not be prevented they thought it necessary your gr/ should have this accompt by ane express bearer that before the ordinarie course of the common post your gr/ may have notice of all in this can be sayed.

Edr, 7 May, 1674.

Endorsed :

"1674, letter of advice from E. Atholl & others, observable."

XXVIII.—THE EARL OF ATHOLL TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23136, f. 142.]

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

Ed^r the 16 of May, 1674.

This day I deliwred his Maj: letter to the Chancelour & uas redⁿ in counsell, it uas very uell liktt; by the advice of your freinds Argille, Kincardin, & your brother I gave the clerk that narrative to read of uhat past at Windsor & Hamton court, all the rest of your friends uas well pleased with it, the Register gott it in his hand, but I snatched from him immediatly & putt it in my pocket, the Adwocatt after the Counsell rose prayed me to lett him see that part of the narrative that concerned him. I did so; after he red it I took occasion to let him knou hou much he uas obliged to his Maj: that remembred him so kindly, & uhat he owed to your Gr: for putting his Maj: in mynd of him, & how litl he uas obliged to thos that raised that report he might now easily see unto the desings of thos persons that makes it their busines to belye any body. I hoped he uold take his measures heirafter as to follow the right pathes of honestie, loayltie, & serve his Maj: in that uay he commanded & be thos he intrusted; he was extraordinary uell pleased, & tould me he uold doue so, & hou sensible he is of your G: kyndnes that he sees mor nou then he did. Sir Georg Monro came tou dayes agoe, he hes bein uith me, but I thought it not fitt to say any until I hard from your Gr: again, I beleive he uill be varie uell pleased uith that imployment, I shall tell him uhat you commanded me.

As for Bruiglo I will undertake for him that what ever condition or station he is in he shall ever live and die yours.

Adiue.

I bege I may present my mast humble service to my la Duches. I hed ureten her Gr. but I have the toothak, and am scarce eable to ureat this.

XXIX.—MR. J. PATERSON TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23136, f. 143.]

MAY IT PLEASE YO^r GRACE,

Since yo^r parting from Scotland, I did by Sir Will: Sharp convey to yo^r G^o hands some short accounts off matters passing in our church and its meetings, and now my ductie binds me to acquaint yo^r G^o that (beside the desolation that threatus ws by ane active separation, and the bold convocating of multitudes to hear seditious demagogues in open fields, and q^o frequentlie usurp the pulpits off loyall and orderlie ministers q^{ch} requir speedie suppressurs, and I hope, may in a short time, by yo^r G^o care and his Maties auctie be effectuellie overcome); some seem to be at work, to sow a spirit of division among ministers, q^o hitherto have continued orderlie and loyall, by engaging some of them, in opposition to their B^{ps}, to meet and treat of petitioning for representing the disorders of the Church, and for desireing a nationall synód, pressing a convocation at this season as the proper remedie of our schisme and confusions, in order to w^{ch} a letter wes written by the prbrrie of Glasgow to ours of Edburgh desiring o^r prbrrie to interpose wth our B^p to intercede with the primate that he wold convene the other B^{ps}, and represent to the King the great disorders and dangers q^{ch} threathne the Church, and iff the Bishops sould refuse to meet, that our prbrrie sould appoint tyme and place where theirs might meet with ours, that wee might make a representation to the King without our B^{ps}; and yesterday, after a desire from M^r Turner to o^r prbrrie, for moving our B^p to intercede with my Lord S^t Andrews and o^r B^{ps}, that they might meet for the said purpose, and the prbrrie not going along with his motion, tho he with some others pressed it with great vehemence, M^rs Turner, Cant, and Scrimgeour, minister at Currie, came to our B^p with a paper signed by themselvs and about a dozen more, some in our and some in other presbyteries, desiring our B^p to intercede with

the Primat, and yo^r B^{ps} to meet, for the end above said, and withall desiring a nationall synod, this paper flowed from them, having mett without anie warrand, being nether conveyd in a prbrie, nor sinod, nor indeed at all with the B^{ps} consent or knowledge; the hands of o^r B^{ps} are so weakned thorow manie discouragements,^a y^t they can scarce adventure to censure such irregular motions and turbulent persons, unless they be enjoind by his Maties aūtie so to doe; and indeed it seems to be verie necessarie some check be given to the leaders in these disorderlic practises, else beside the utter enervating of Episcopall power manie others in all corners may be emboldned by their impunitie to follow their way, and will not want those who will stimulat y^m there unto, upon no good designe. And now yo: G^{ce} will give me leave to say that my Lord St Andrews (q^o next to yo^r G^{ce}, of all the King's ministers seems to be most aimed at and injured by those attempts) with all the loyall and peaceable clergie doe wnder God, and our King, depend upon non, nor confide in anie so much as in yo^r G^s: goodnes for the healing of our distempers, & the establishment of this long tossed and still distressd Church; the doing wheroff, seems not onlie yet to be sufficientlic feasible (since a gentle touch of his Maties Royall Hand, with the prudent and zealous execution of his cōiands by his ministers, may cure our evill) bot will bring honor, preservation, and blessing from heaven upon yo^r G: and yo^r noble familie, which salbe the fervent and constant prayer off,

May it please yo^r Grace,
 Your G^s: most faithfull and
 humble devoted servand,
 JO: PATERSON.

[4 June, 1674.]

A double of the paper given in by Mr Turner, Cant, Robisone, Scringeor, &c. to our B^p, iff your G^{ce}: have it not by this post, you will by the next p.

^a Burnet, i. 369, says that at this time "Lauderdale took all possible methods to become more popular. He connived at the insolence of the Presbyterians," &c.

XXX.—THE DUKE OF ARGYLE TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23136, f. 147.]

MAY IT P L^{ty} G^{ty},

Ed^r, 16 June, 74.

Since my last the councill and the commitie about the conventicles have sate oft: ther are orders preparing for the Militia and for the disposing the armes so as they may be in security, and at hand when they are needed, the armes of the Lenox companies of my regiment I intend to put in Dumbarton Castle till I need them, those of Argyll I can secure at home ; of 8 companies of that regiment 4 are at a great distance or strangers to me, but when I am sure of the armes I hope to get men to carie them, and tho it is not reasonable I should ingadge myselfe in Militia or Levies to beare more then my proportion, yet in case of a surprise I have no fencible man that will obey me that shall not once appeare in his Ma^{ty} service, and I hope by it in such a straitte (which God forbid should hapen) to double my Militia, but to make this worth the offering I will need some armes and amunition which I can secure in Castles out of all hazard of phanaticks, and if his Ma^{ty} thinke it fitt I can sell many of them out to persons of unquestionable Loyalty, so that it needs be a very small expence to his Ma^{ty}.

Ther was a motion made in councell that all landlords should bind for ther tenants not to keepe conventicles ; this was hardly thought legall and very hard if they were content to purge themselves by oath they knew it not, besides it was taked of in the articles and rejected.

But ther is ane act of councell past in 1666, now revived, wherby Landlords are apointed to take bonds of ther tenants not to keepe conventicles, so turne out those refuse that want takes, to give no takes without that clause, and wher ther is takes to summond the tenants to give bonds, and on refusal to denunce them and take the gift of ther esteats. Some wished to delay pasing it till

thursday, but it caried by a vote presently; it is good, and the utmost can be done. The only feare is it be not practicable. My L. S^t A. said if it were throwly done he wisht all but the Ministers were pardoned. A. B. Glasgow is still for a conference; he was with me this night; if it be realy [?] I thinke he will say very smart things.

The Treasurie is to meete to morrow the first time, and I thinke will looke after the condition of his Ma^{ties} Castles, and I beleive his Ma^{ties} letter about the apeales will be read in the session. I have now scribbled so much I aprehend Y^r G^r will discharge me to doe so afterwards; yet I must ad one word to tell Y^r G^r the sad disconsolate condition poore E. Ballcares is in; his Lady,^a since shee was brought to bed, is troubled with fitts beyond the mother; she is not absolutely furious, but shee is right ill and allways sullen. Her father and mother hath beene with her once or twice; my wiffe went bake from the Weemes on the discovery of it and stayed till after I came heere; but shee is litle better, and but small hops of her being better. He is in greate straites but says nothing; it were a greate charity that Y^r G^r would procure him ane order for that terme of his pention he wants, and this Whitsunday realy he is become another persone then Y^r G^r may possibly imagine. My wiffe and I are my La: Dutchesse humble servants, but have beene inevitably hindered to write this night.

^a Apparently a second wife. His first wife was Mauritia de Nassau, younger sister of Lady Arlington and Lady Ossory. For this former marriage, and its sad ending, see Lord Lindsay's "Memoirs of Lady Anna Mackenzie," p. 84.

XXXI.—THE ARCHBISHOP OF GLASGOW TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23136, f. 149.]

MAY IT PLEASE YO^r GRACE,

Edg. Jun. 16 [1674].

Whither it bee y^e fatall unhappinesse of this order in this corner of y^e world, or our unskilfulness in managing it, or somewhat of both I cannot tell, but it is evident to all y^e world y^t it hath not produc'd since its restitution those good effects y^t were wisht & expected from it, & is now in lesse appearance to doe so then before, & likely rather to occasion more trouble then yet it has done, unles it please God to avert it, & to suggest such counsails to those in power as may prove effectually to prevent it. I am far from presuming to offer advice in so difficult a buisines; but though my own private concernment in it will quickly expire, if any thing occur'd to my thoughts that I did but imagine might bee of any use I would not affect y^e modesty of concealing it. What I sayd in my last I see as yet no reason to retract, y^t whatsoever other ways of quieting or curbing that froward party may bee us'd, it seems not wholly useles to put them once more te't to give account of y^e reasons of their opinions & practises; & why they have now run to so entire a separation, & to such wild & insolent attempts; & certainly while those coercions & civill restraints that for a time were intermitted, are now found needfull to bee renew'd upon them. If churchmen shall doe nothing in their own proper way, I see not how they can bee thought worthy that so much should be done for them, & such pains taken in their behalf, while they doe not so much as offer to speak for themselvs & y^e church, & by y^e clear evidence of reason either to reduce their opposites to union, or to strip them in y^e view of y^e world of all further excuse; but unles this take with others, I shall presse it no further, for ther

is none of us has lesse pleasure in disputes & contests about these pitifull questions, then

May it please yo^r Grace,
 Yo^r Grace's
 Most humble servant,
 R. LEIGHTON.

I have now received y^o presentation for Jedburgh, for w^{ch} I most humbly thanke yo^r Grace.

That w^{ch} hath made y^e wound of our shism almost incurable was y^e unhappy act of Glasco^a turning out so many ministers at once, and though a good number of the^m/ are now perfectly silenc't by death & not a few permitted to preach, & provided to parishes by indulgence, yet there remains a considerable part of them that were not willing of themselvs to goe, & no means was us'd to make them goe & bee confined within y^e parishes to w^{ch} they were assigned double, & these are mainly they y^t now disquiet y^e countrey. And I see no help unles some way can bee found out how these may bee quieted & bound to y^o good behaviour, without binding upp their mouths from preaching & fro eating, & so neither stifle them nor starve them; nor is it probable that this can quickly & fully bee done by giving them liberty to bee presented to vacant churches, there being not at present so many vacancies nor likely on a sudden to bee so many within y^o kingdom as will suffice to lodg y^e half of them single; and if they & their zealous followers bee so drunk with opinion of themselvs as to think so I cannot tell, but sure none beside themselvs will think it reasonable to turn out any of y^o regular ministers on purpose to make room for them, so y^t it would seem some other way must of necessity bee thought of.

^a In the Middleton Administration.

XXXII.--THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE TO THE ARCHBISHOP
OF GLASGOW.

[23136, f. 151.]

18 June, '74.

Yesterday I received yours of the 11th instant, and am very glade yow are come to Edinburgh. I am glade yow have written so fully & so freely, for I hope yow will not mistake as full & free an answer ; and before I come to speake of your Proposition at p'sent, I must crave leave to tell my minde freely of those Addresses that have been made for a Nationall Synode. By the Addresses themselves, and by a letter from three of the Ministers of Edinburgh ingadged in them (M^r Cant, M^r Turner, & M^r Robertson) I find the ground upon w^{ch} they plead for a Nationall Synod, is, Because Synods have been in the pure & primitive times a good Remedy against schisme, which I acknowledge to be true, But alace, what hopes can wee have from a Nationall Synod, for which our Dissenters will have no maner of Reverence. Our Synod wilbe composed, according to our Act of Parliam^t, of the Bishops, the Deanes, the Constant Moderators of each Presbitery, Comissioners from the Universityes, & one from each Presbitery. Will the Dissenters look upon that as a Generall Assembly of Scotland ? Will they Give any Obedience to the Decrees of it ? and as for the Orthodox Clergie, they are or ought to be satisfied with the Governement Established by law, and what need they a Synod ? But I must look a litle back towards the first Rise of this Motion. it was begun at yo^r Synod of Glasgow, and yet I doe not find it inserted nor proposed in their addresse to the Councill. It was also moved in the Synode of Edinburgh, and with the same successe, And now I hear the Presbitery of Glasgow wrote a letter to the Presbitery of Edinburgh, to joine with them to presse my Lord Primate & the Bishops to joine in an addresse to the Councill for a Synod : When neither of those tooke, I am informed some

Ministers of the Presbyteries of Edenburgh, Dalkeith, and Hadinton gave in a petition to the Bishop of Edenburgh to the same purpose, and the three above-named sent it to me, and desired me to joine in it. Now I am apt enowgh to beleiv the generality of those that moved so earnestly for this have no ill intention, yet I must needs suspect that some others have set them on who had another Designe then what is pretended. I can not forget the time when those Addresses were made; It was to trifle with the Council-Day in May, where it was earnestly urged that the Councill might send some Solemne Representation to the King, of the great dangers of the Country, and I think it was intended that some Eminent Persons (some of whom are come to Court since) might have been the Cariers of this Solemne Representation, and so might have come to Court with a publick Character, which would have made a great noise here (a thing that was intended ever since I went last to Scotland). It was very fit that his Maj^{tie} should be truly informed of the condition of his Kingdome of Scotland, but so solempne a Representation as was intended was very needlesse, unles it was thought that I would not represent faithfully what would be sent to me, which was a great mistake, For I have faithfully acquainted the King with all the Papers & all the Passages, and he has sent his positive comands to his Councill for the suppressing those Insolencies by feild Conventicles & invadeing of Churches, which I am confident have been industriously raised and fomented, and yet I hope if the Councill doe vigorously prosecute the King's comands, that violent & seditious Spirit may easily be quelled. But I have another Reason to mislike the late Pressing of a Synod by Ministers without authority from their Presbyteries, becaus I too well Remember what sad Effects flowed from Petitions of Ministers in the year 1638, and for a Generall Assembly too. I doe also remember how the tumult at Edenburgh begun by woemen, and now I find woemen more tumultuously Petitioning. I wish some may not be intending the same Play ower again, but a burn'd Child dreads the fire, and upon all those considerations I dare not,

I can not concur in the Desires of a Synod at this time, from which I may fear evill, and expect no maner of good.

If the late mad pranks, so evidently threatening a Rebellion, had not fallen out, I was much inclined to any maner of Moderation that could have been proposed for quieting the soberest of the Dissenting Party, and I was for granting any Indulgence to the Peaceable of them w^{ch} might have consisted with the maintenance of the present Church Governement Established by Law, & w^{ch} would not probably have perpetuated the Schisme; but the late mad practises have much cooled me untill I shall see some more hopes of Peace by the Councill's vigorous quelling of this Spirit; Yet I shall not discourage any Motions for quieting the Spirits of such as wilbe peaceable. Yow propose a meeting of some of the Soberest Dissenters with some of my Lords the Bishops & of the Orthodox Clergie; And Although such Meeting had no successe the last time it was attempted, yet seeing yow think it may now be of great use, I shall not absolutely Discourage it: Yow may please to talk of it with confident freinds, & if upon debate it shalbe thought a probable meanes, I shall not oppose it, becaus those upon the place can be better judges then I at this distance; yet I can not disguise my own melancholly thoughts that untill that desperate Party see that their violent Courses can not prevaile, I have but little hope from Moderation & Indulgences. Thus yow see I have freely told yow my thoughts which I desire yow to comunicate to such confident freinds as I would have yow to meet with, and from whom I will expect a joint advice upon the whole matter.

Endorsed:

To Ar: Glas: 18 June, 74.

[Copy, *hologr.*, of Landerdail to Abp. of Glasgow.]

XXXIII.—THE ARCHBISHOP OF GLASGOW TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23136, f. 157.]

MAY IT PLEASE YO^R GRACE,Edg^r. Jun. 20 [1674].

There is a huge noyse raisd here of late among y^e Clergy about y^e motion of a convocation, & they y^t are here seem all hotly engagd in y^e contast for or agst it, except one, y^t is cool & indif-ferent in it, but that poor man is so to most other things y^t sett y^e world on fire. As to this desire it was first moov'd in y^e synod of Edensburgh, as I am informd, & hath bin since revivd there, but I hear it takes generally with y^e presbyters everywhere, & I think it is because 'tis y^e road, & has bin y^e usuall way of y^e Church in cases either of heresy or shism, & besides, y^e genius of this church particularly lies much towards synods & assemblies since y^e reformation; for my self I am so far from overvaluing those meetings that I am & have long bin weary & sick of them all, & of all y^e vain Jangles & strifes, y^t usually take them upp; & upon the litle knowledg I have of them, when I reflect on y^e greatest part of synods & Councils old & new, I have so mean an opinion of them that if I should ever have vented it in any of them where I have bin, I should have bin sure to feel y^e weight of their censure; 'tis true sometimes they doe some good, but none can deny they doe likewise sometimes harm, & very great harm, & possibly y^e oftner of the two; after y^e spreading of Luther's doctrine the germans cri'd their throats dry with calling for a generall Council, and when they had obtain'd it, all y^e world knows what they gain'd by it. For y^e presbyteries or presbyters that have supplicated here for a synod I could not enquire of their motives before they did it, none of them having acquainted mee with their purpose, but since they did it, I have spoke with some of them, & they doe wholly disclaim all kind of project or design in it save onely y^e good of this Church, & as to the way they us'd they say it was with all due respect &

submission to their Ordinary, & finding reasons (as they thought) for offering their desire of a thing lawfull in it self, & establish't by law, & usuall in y^e Church, they knew not a more regular & orderly way then y^t they took in representing it to y^e Bp. and leaving it for his iudgment whither he thought fitt to moov it or suppress it ; how far this may plead their excuse yo^r Grace can iudg as well as any, & that I give yo^r grace this account of it, is from no motive but that of charity, for there is no man lesse involv'd in y^e concernement then I am. I receiv'd lately a letter from y^e Dean of the Isles, complaining of y^e great & many disorders in y^e diocese for want of a Bishop, & seeming to impute somewhat of it to my neglect, y^t diocese being of y^e province of Glaseo, but that yo^r Grace will clear mee of, having spoke of it often, & particularly the last winter while yow were here, & having spoke of it, it became not mee to presse it further. Hee desir'd likewise that in y^e interim for redresse of those disorders I would give warrant to them to meet in a diocesan synod & to appoint one to moderate in it, w^{ch} it seems hee thought I might doe, but I think not so, unles I have a particular co^mand for it. I am minded God willing to go from hence within two or three days, to visit y^e southern & remoter parts of y^e diocese of Glasco, as I have formerly done in y^e su^mmer season, & to doe it now for the last time, but I shall leav direction how to send them, if in the intervall any co^mands shall come from yo^r Grace to

May it please yo^r Gr:

Yo^r Grace's

Most humble servant,

R. LEIGHTON.

XXXIV.—THE ARCHBISHOP OF GLASGOW TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23136, f. 161.]

MAY IT PLEASE YO^R GRACE,Edg^r. Jun. 25 [1674].

I was iust upon going out of town when I receiv'd yo^r grace's letter of y^e 18th of June, & some few days before I had writt somewhat to yo^r Gr: touching y^e buisines of a nationall synod, very much agreeing with what yo^{rs} sayes concerning it, onely I took y^e liberty to suggest the fairest construction in behalf of ye ministers suiting for it, & that if any were driving a design in it, 'twas more then I could perceiv, & more then y^e generality of themselvs doe know of, & there is one partiular they have mistaken, y^t gave yo^r gr: account of this affair, if they affirm'd that y^e motion began at y^e synod of Glasco, for upon my honest word there was not one syllable spoke of it there in my hearing no not in private, far lesse any thing propounded towards it in publick; indeed, after it was moov'd at Edg^r, y^e report spreading, diverse presbyteries were taken with it & began to discourse of it, & yet none of them writt of it to mee till it was again revivd at Edg^r, only y^e presbyterie of Glasco sent a letter to y^e presbyterie of Edg^r, wherein there was more irregularity then in any other I have seen or heard of, for they neither acquainted y^e Bp. of Edg^r. with it at all, nor mee, w^{ch} lookt y^e liker y^e striking upp to a correspondence divided from us, but if this had not come to yo^r Grace's knowledg by other hands, I confes I had never sayd any thing of it, for being here iust y^e day before it should have bin deliver'd it was brought to my hands, & I having open'd it (as I thought I had good reason to doe) & being much displeas'd with y^e strain of it, kept it upp & resolv'd to suppress it, & to check them y^t writt it, but not to bring them to any publick censure for it, & the rather for y^t very reason y^t would have moov'd a vindictive man to publish it, some of those y^t ioyned in it being y^e persons of y^e whole diocese that have most discover'd something

of unkindnes towards mee, yea I can confidently say are y^e onely persons of y^e whole for any thing I know yⁱ continue so to doe, the rest having after the first preiudices & mistakes were blown over liv'd with mee not onely in much peace, but in great amity & kindnes, & have of late generally exprest more affection to mee then I can modestly own y^e reporting of. But this I say to excuse my suppressing y^e very ill advis'd letter those persons sent to Edg^r.

The reasons they give y^t still presse this motion are not that they think y^e dissenters will submit to it, but that a free & full hearing may be offer'd them in any way they will accept of it, or if they totally decline it that will bee both a sufficient & very easy defeat, nor doe they say they themselvs need a synod in order to their own satisfaction concerning y^e government, seing they wyn with it, but for regulating of y^e church in matters of discipline & reducing things to as much order as may bee for y^e present attainable ; but to both these I answer th^c that till there shall bee found a more convenient time for such a meeting these things may bee some way provided for in an easier & safer way, for I tell them freely that though I doe not suspect them of any design ag^t the present government, wh^{ch} was y^e great incentive in y^e year 1638, yet I fear unles it were very wisely manag'd & succeeded very happily, it might bee in hazard rather to disparage the government then likely to add any thing to its reputation, for seing them so divided & hotly contesting about y^e very motion of a synod, it may iustly bee fear'd they would be more so in it if it were granted them ; & with these & other considerations I doe really indeavour to alay & cool y^e minds of such ministers as apply themselvs to mee about it, & strive to divert them from any further attempts or thoughts of it for this time ; and I am hopefull there shall bee no more noyse about it. Our primate tels mee hee hath writt to some of the Northern B^{ps} of his province to meet him shortly at Brechin, but I beleev it will bee but a thinn meeting, & (as I told him) I cannot see what great matter they can doe at it, but that I leav to his own

better iudgment ; if it had been at Edgr it would have past with lesse noyse & observation, & I would have indeavour'd to waite on it, but being now going to y^e most southern corner of y^e diocese of Glasco I cannot possibly return so quickly as to go so soon north. I have stay'd this day in town on purpose to speak with some of those Lords yo^r Grace directs mee to waite on, & I went in y^e morning to my Lord Hatton's lodging, but hee was gone abroad, but this afternoon I intend to waite on his Lo: & any others of y^t number I can meet with, though I have litle or nothing to say but what some of them know already. I have weari'd yo^r Gr: with so long a letter, but y^e particular y^t occasion it to bee so I trust will excuse .

May it please yo^r Grace,

Yo^r Grace's

Most humble servant,

R. LEIGHTON.

XXXV.—LORD ROSSE TO THE HON. CHARLES MAITLAND.

[23136, f. 163.]

MY LORD,

Halkhead, 29 Junj. [74].

Since my last to yow I have made all the enqwery I could in to the disorders of the place, bot in regward of the disafected howmer^a of all persons and of all degreas heare abowt I can hardly procwre any trew intelligens, however I find that I have noe resone to recall any thing in my last to yow, bot to adde this more, that yesterday at the howse of one Simion Pickerscalls in Glasgow, the which he holds of the toune and which he hes disposed in forme of a Chwrch, ther wes ane numerows conventickell wher ther wes publicke colections and all the ordinary marks of ther contempt to King's awthoritey : besyds this ther are many kepted in diverse places, one of which my Lord Wigtowne can give the best acompt

^a humour.

of, being at some distance from me, and this I can ashewre yow of, that the conventickells ryses and falls acording as they ar pwnished or slighted, soe that thos who propose a fwriher indwlgence as the properest mean to quiet the Kingdome I am shewr are mwch mistaken in ther mishowrs, and thowhe my privat concerns heare might lead me to defend thes persons and plead for them (being alone amongst them as a Lambe amonge vowlfes), yet the dewty I owe to the King's Ma^{ties} shall carey me over all thes considerations. The preachers who infest the town of Glasgow most and the cwntry about ar Mr. Ro Morton, Mr. Donalld Cargill, Mr. Alexander Bertram, Mr. Ro Law, Mr. J Willson, and Mr. Ro Maxwell elder and yownger, they ashwre them yet of ane indwlgence which they pretend to be confirmed in from persons in trowst. I wish we doe not waiken on anothers hands to the prewdice of the Kings service. As for any inswrrections or trwble I can learne nothing that I can credite, however it will be yo^r providence to pryvde for the worst, what fwrtther I shall discover shall be comwnicat wpon every ocasion, I intend to be in towne about the midill of the nixt moneth, and if I can doe any service I shall be ready wpon the first call, and shall ever testifey how much I am really

My Lord,
Yo^r most fathswll and hwmbly servant,
ROSSE.

The bearer who is the ordinary post of Paslay will evry weeke waite for what comands ye have for me.

For

The Right Hono^{ble} My Lord Treasurer-Depwte.

XXXVI.—THE EARL OF KINCARDIN TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23136, f. 165.]

Edenb: 30 June, '74.

* * * * *

There is now a great cessation from the insolencies & field conventicles, especially in the places neare Edr, as Fife & the Lothians, but they have not quit given it over in the more remote parts. Yet I hope it shall be got mastered if wee wold but hold equally & discreetly to it. But it is not to be imagined to what a height of malice & discontent people's spirits are raised not only amongst the foolish phanatick partie, but even amongst all sorts of people, & they know not for what. The advocats I do believe contribute more to this then any body, for they being generally men of parts & having evry bodies busines in their hands, have evry body in a dependence upon them & have opportunity to influence evry body by their informations, & they are now in very ill temper to give it no worse name. If the lords wold make use of this opportunity they might bring them into perfect subjection, but it is hard to expect it from them for most of them have been advocats themselves & favour the trade.

ADiew.

My wife's last letters from Holland tell of the death of her mother.^a

^a Wife of the Lord of Sommelsdych.

XXXVII.—THE ARCHBISHOP OF GLASGOW ^a TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23136, f. 171.]

MAY IT PLEASE YO^r GRACE,Lond. Jul. 3^d [1674].

I am extreemly sorry if y^e putting a close to y^e buisines y^t brought mee hither, when it could not well bee differr'd any longer, shall have caus'd in yo^r grace any displeasure agst mee w^{ch} yet I can hardly suspect, for this desire of mine (w^{ch} I confesse is y^e onely ambitious & passionate desire I have of any thing in this world) bee it from weaknesse of understanding, or melancholy humor, or whatsoever else any may imagine, I am sure there is no malice in it to any person or to any party, yea ye innocency & sincerity of my heart in this matter will I trust in God uphold me under all ye various misconstructions y^t can fall upon me. Yea even that of crazinesse of mind 'tis possibly by some imputed to, does not moov mee when I consider that many great & wise persons have bin guilty of y^e same folly, if it bee so, some by actual retiring, others by earnest desires of it when it prov'd impossible for them. But not to amuse yo^r Grace with these discourses, I submitt to y^e result of this buisines for this time seing 'tis now never to create any further trouble either to myself or any other, & I hope in God I shall goe through y^e remainder of this wnplesant work without discontent or impatience, If I may bee but assur'd of one thing & that is a full & absolute pardon from yo^r Grace of whatsoever hath bin troublesome or offensive to yow in this matter, & no abatement of yo^r good opinion & favour, though (I confes) alwaies undeserv'd in all other respects, unles great affection to yo^r Grace & yo^r service may pretend to some small degree of acceptance instead of merit.

^a Leighton retired at the end of this year, went into England, and died there, June, 1684 (Wodrow, ii. 272, *note*). Alexander Burnet succeeded him on September 29, 1674.

And this shall remain unalterable in mee while I live. However yo^r Grace shall bee pleasd henceforward to look upon mee. But it would exceedingly encourage me in my return to my Laboratory if a line from yo^r hand did give mee some hope at least, of y^e same favourable aspect from yo^r Grace as formerly, but I crave pardon for this presumption, & however my poor prayers, such as they be, shall not be wanting for yo^r Grace's welfare & happiness, nor shall I ever cease while I am above ground to bee,

May it please yo^r Grace,

Yo^r Grace's

Most humble servant,

R. LEIGHTON.

XXXVIII.—THOMAS HAYE TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23136, f. 174].

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

Ed^r, 4th of July, 1674.

There did meett yesterday at nyne of the cloak ane co^mitte^e of the Councill appoynted to examyne the insolencies offered to the Bishop of Edinburgh by the three ministers suspended by him, and hawing called before them Mr. Turner and questioned him how he came to persist in the motion for ane nationall synod, after that he was discharged to mowe any farder in it by his ordinare; and why he had dispersed copies of the speech he had on Weddensday last before the presbyterie, and of the letter lately writtin by him to your Grace; he did plead that the Bishop did never before the tyme of thaire suspending expresse his dissatisfactione with that motion, and that he had only sent one copie of his speech to your Grace without dispersing of any more.

The Co^mitte^e after he was examyned, considering that it wold tak more tyme to expiscat the truth of the matters of fact, then

thaire bussiness wold allow, most of them being called to the Thesaurie or Sessione, did adjourne till this morning ; and hawing at thaire doune sitting called in the Bishop of Edinburgh, who hawing had informatione of what Mr. Turner had declared anent him, was attending to vindicat him self as he did first by asserting the contrarie of what Turner had sayde, and therafter by the testimonies of Mr. Annand & other foure of the ministers of the place, who declared the Bishop had at the beginning in the presbyterie, and therafter upon all ocasioness, expressed his dislyk of the motione and petitione ; wherupon Mr. Turner being called was rebuked for what he had asserted ; which was all they thowght fitt to doe in the bussines, leaving all farder cognitione of the same to these invested with ecclesiasticall authoritie ; sawe that for the preservatione of the peace, and upon informatione that these three ministers had vented thaire resolutiones to preach notwithstanding of the Bishop's sentence, they did call all the three before them, and did command them upon thaire perrils to giwe all dew obedience to the sentence ; and that neither by word nor wryte they showld prosecut the motione for ane nationall synod without the allowance of the Archbishop and Bishop thaire superiores: whereunto all of them acquiesced, promysing all dew obedience.* This day ane other coimmittee called for the magistrats of Edinburgh and requyred from them ane farther accompt of persons present at the late tumult in ye parliament yaird, which they receawed, the magistrats hawing been desyred yesterday to informe themselves therin as they did by examyning severall persones hawing houses and choapes in and about the yaird, whose depositiones they delyvered to the Coimmittee, they desyred of the Coimmittee that they might not be putt to thair oathes, which the Coimmittee granted till the Councill showld be acquainted with thaire diligence, which albeit it appeares from the many persons examyned to have been great, yett hath not made

* Kincardin adds : " So wee dismiss them, and were glad to get out of the briers at that rate. It is strang that all sorts of people should thus grow mutinous together. I pray God avert what it threatens."

discoverie of many persones, nor of persones to be notted for thaire qualitie sawe ane sister of the Laird Melvins, the late Lord Crimond's lady, and the Relict of John Benholme, who was several times one of the baillies heire.

I have sent to your Grace heirwith some copies of the Act mentioned in my last, wherin I am affrayed your Grace will find errors from the press, albeit we did use our indevoures to have prevented them.

I am, my Lord,
Your Graces most humble and most obliged servant,
THOMAS HAYE.

XXXIX.—THE EARL OF ATHOL TO THE DUCHESS^a OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23136, f. 184.]

Tall: August 27, '74.

I cannot forbear (tho' I bee the worst writer in the world) to offer my foolish opinion of any thing that I thinke conscernes his Ma^{ty} service w^{ch} is certainly the conscern of y^r Gr: and your Lord.

I know y^r Gr: has had an account by those that has bin upon the place of what has passd att ye meeting of the Burroughs att Ed^{sh}, & w^t a sawey letter they have sent to his Ma^{ty}; it has been the studie of that whole partie to sett on halfe a score of those silly insignificant fellowes to write as they have don, & none busier then S^r Patrick Murray; that partie brags of it as the greatest advantage they ever had over the Duke of Lauderdale, and magnifies it extraordinarily, & it makes a great noise every where, & tho' it is not to be minded w^t their thoughts are, yett certainly it is a reflection on his Ma^{ty} & a lessning his prerogative, y^t such vermine

^a Much of the correspondence is now addressed to the Duchess. She was anxious to marry one of her daughters to Athol's son.

& machanick fellows dar offer such things to his Ma: that has noe interest in Scotland or y^e government, for the most considerable of y^m protests against them, for they were surprised for all their partie men & not the other, els it had never gon soe, but if this should pass wth a meeting of ye Burroughs who is only for regulating of things within their owne townes, that they should darr to medle wth that w^{ch} only belongs to King & Parlam^t, & I darr say if there were a Parlam^t sitting they would not have taken soe much upon them, if this bee not put to a stop speedily, & that his Ma^{tie} resent it as he ought to doe, & signifie his displeasure in such a manner as may reduce them to their first principles (w^{ch} is worse than nothing) it will certainly encourage others of the same qualitie to doe the like, w^{ch} was never yett heard off in Scotland, for y^r Gr: knowes y^t without the nobilitie such fellowes signifie little, & since they are sett on by some because they darr not ventur them selves, if they be not crusht it will make those that put y^m upon it follow that way wth the more confidence. There is nothing in my humble opinion for his Ma^{tie} since hee has begun to frowne upon that partie (& deservedly) that has created him soe much trouble, & endeavours more, but to continue y^e same way & prosecute vigorously what he has begun; there is nothing to cleare up our Scotch mists but this way of procedour. My Lord Arroll has bin heere & a great deale of companie perpetuallie since I came home, soe that I can not yet leave to doe businesse of my owne, & faith I think for all the beefe & venson that I have in the Highlands I shall be eaten up; but I doe not repine at it since hospitality does no hurt in this countrie, & att this tyme 66 was heere four or five daies, & is going up tuesday next, I have all y^e promisses & assurances of him y^t man can have, that hee will be faithfull, serve his Ma^{tie}, & be of noe faction.

I writt to my L^d Rosse to gett intelligence w^t they were doeing in that countrie & concerning y^t rogue Welsh, I thought fitt to send y^r G^r his returne whoe is as honiest a gentleman as lives, I have still 6 men in disguise taking all y^e paines y^t can be to apprehend

y^t vilaine. I did make bold to write to my Lord Duke that if there bee any forces to bee levied to recomend 3 captaines, & tho I writt for one whoe is a cosen german, the laird of Murie, yet I will prefer nothing to the publick interest, soe in place of him y^e Laird of Tough, whoe is a very honest gentleman & has a good interest in the countrie, & y^e other may be lieftenant, & if there were three or foure blanks of Lieftenants places, I should fill them up with honest faithfull men, & be answerable for them.

I was att y^e Comission att Stirling where all y^e paines y^t could wer taken, I will not trouble y^r Gr: with the account of it because you will have it from other handes.

I long mightily to know how my lord Duke does after the watters, I trust in God they have don him much good, & to your Grace.

For her Grace the Duchesse of
Lauderdale.

XL.—THE HON. CHARLES MAITLAND TO THE DUCHESS OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23137, f. 1].

MAY IT PLEASE Y^r GRACE,

Ed^r, 1 Dec^r, 1674.

I resaved y^r comānds by the Elect B off Galavay in 3 things : 1, That the King's frends & my Lord's should not differ amongst themselves at any tyme, & y^r adveice how to prevent that; 2, That I should keep up nothing bot comunicat to them all what I had in comānd from my Lord; 3, To indevor the bringing in off the outed advocats^a by all fair and passable mens. As to the first I formerly gave your G all the accompt I was capable to give; as to the 2 I may saifly suair I never kept up any thing [from any?] of them if they wer heir when it came to . . . if not I told them

^a I have omitted this matter of the advocates from my selection. It may be read in Mackenzie's Memoirs, and in Burnet.

when they cam heir or went & told them wher they wer if I was able to retch it ; as to the 3 I was never violent in that persuit further then was absolutly nesesar for mantening off the honour off the King's autoretie in that judicatorie to which I am strikty tayed by the oath I gave att my admission, & not only so, but as having the honour to be the 5th person off my lord Duk's famelic that hes sit upon that binsh, & in sume it shall be my studdy to obay thes & all y^r other cõmands vere fathfully & carfully, not forgetting to give y^e hartie & humble thanks for y^r most keind adveice in thes 3 particulars.

I have resaved y^r G vere keind letter off 23 No^r, & I shall now fathfully obay all y^r cõmands y^rin mentioned. Y^r nephew, his mother, & I, ar vere sensible off y^r keind letter to him of the same dat, & off y^r keind Expressions off him in myne, & I hope he will demane himself sutable to my Lord's Expectations & yours in all things relating to y^r comands or what els he is capable to serve yie in. I am mutch rejoysed to hier off his Ma^{ty} Extraordinaire kendnes to my dear lord, it is a constant demonstration off the extraordinaire parts & worth off so matchles a, prince to show constant countenance & keindnes to so constant & so fathfull a servant.

For
The Duches off Lauderdale,
Hir Grace
att Court.

XLI.—LORD POLWARTH TO LORD YESTER.^a

[23136, f. 46.]

6 desem^r, 1673.

The footman went with your last letters of the 4th returned without staying for yours so that I am forced to send anoether just now

^a An intercepted letter. This and the two following letters have been accidentally misplaced. A reference to the dates will show where they should have come.

and have little to say, but what I could have said by the ordinary way, which is that the D: Hamilton and the E. of Tweedale part from this on teusday morning, goe in coeh to Belford, from thence on horsback to York, and from thence by the post-coeh to London, where they hope to be on tuesday come a fortnight at least, which is a fortnight by ther way; the L. Generall Dromond and St John Harper goe alongst with them. You are desyred by the E. of Tweedale to bespeak Lodgings for him in Suffolk Street or thereabouts where Mr. Cole bespeakes Lodginges for the Duke Hamiltoun. See they be good and convenient for you knowe he loves a good Lodging. The E. of Balcarres had a good one in the end of that street nixt Whitehall, a dyning roome Bedchamber, and two bedchambers above for your self and Blackbarrony or as many on a flour as can be had. You must also think of hyring a coach and two horses by week or fortnight, or at most for a moneth, for hardly will they stay so long. A handsome chariot will doe well anuffe, but nou I think on it wee will be for the most part three together, and by any means a coach must be gott. E. Argile & 160 have been dealing with 154 to stop 60 it is supposed from 193 & offered that 159 shall be disposed of at his pleasure and many other fine things but to small purpose. At 93 yesterday 193 brought in (?) 199 and was told by 161 it was proper for 79: will not 159 have good 52 in presence of 193. There is one of 74 to be sent to morrow to 104 by 154 ane acquaintance of 165 who last year was exerceising horsmanship at Heriot's Hospitall it is like he will have 45 from 154 and 156 to 125 and a full 212 of what 78 did and w[as] about to prevent 157 who they say tooke 63 to morrow 280 [is?] nou heir and I must make ane end to convers with him on . . . heir is a not of the date of the renunciation I wrote last to you, and like enough there is such another of the hous of highgate by the E. and Countesse of Murray and it will be a right in the records in the manner of Cantlot about that tyme of year before or a year after the date of this you shall hear from me as the Duke of Hambleton parts on uensday and it is like by the way this cometh

on thursday and ther after as I can, and you must take care to wroit to such places on the Rode as you may most convenient the common neues, and when you may send att adventure to Duncaster may be a good place and to Mr. Hunt there or to Newark or Stamford, so Adieu.

Endorsed : Copie off polwarts letter directed for the Lord Yester.

XLII.—THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE TO CHARLES II.

[23136, f. 66].

I have a Heart as full off treu sence & gratetud as ever man had for y^r Grace & goodnes to me expressed in y^r most gracious letter & Messadg delayvered to me by my brother, bot I want words to tell yow as I ought, & tho I wer eloquent I wold spar yow the trouble (for us year plesed to say) ye have knoune me long, & as it ever was so it ever shal be my studie so long as I live to mak my actions not my words tel yow in all stations how treu, how loyall, & how fathful I am to yow & to y^r service. I have now sent an other expresse to resave y^r cõmands in order to the keeping this aprotching deyet or adjurning y^r parl : heir I delayed as long as was possible that I might have shewne what yow doed with thos Lords who ar given out in England to be Comiss^{rs} from y^r parl : & ther partie hier speks off them as sutch, & that they labour for the parl : & the kingdom.

I have presumed to offer to yow my humble opinion upon the wholl mater which E. K. will shew yow : but it is with the humblest submission to y^r better judgment, doe yow vhat you please I shall ever labour to serve yow in y^r oune way. Only I doe most humbly beg that ye will be plesed to dispatch y^r cõmands to me that I be not surprised with the 28th off this moneth befor I know

y^r pleasour what I am to doe, & when I know it ye shall feind
redie obedience, for I am ever, & ever shall be,

Most Intierly,

Y^{rs}.

Holyrudhous, 9 No^r. 1674 [sic].

My weif preseums to retorne her most humble dewtie & thanks
for y^r remembrenc off her by my B.

XLIII.—THE EARL OF KINCARDIN TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23136, f. 68].

Whitehall, 10 Jan^r, '74.

. By the last packet I receaved one from L. H. by which I find
that the King's forbearance to Harper is made use of to incour-
age the partie there. This was told the King wold be the effects
of it first, but it could not be helpt, & when the King is told
of it now he sayes that he will do well enough let him alone. I
find that these lords are now dealing underhand to have our Parl^t
adjourned, that they may have the more tyme to stay here. The
Duke spake to me this afternoon about it, And said that if there
were nothing of importance to do in it why might it not be delayed.
I told that I hopt it wold be left free to the Com^r to adjourne or
not as he thought fit, he was upon the place & could well judg what
was fittest for the Kings service, & if there were no other reason
against it but that it was their motion, I hopt it wold not be graunted
at this tyme. Tho D said that things that are fit should be done
who ever moves them, & therefor bid me thinke if when the part^t
was sitting here it were fit in such tymes to have our parl^t together,
I told him that if these lords were but as loyale as they pretend, our
part^t wold be as unanimous as ever to serve the King and there
might be one very good reason for bringing them togeter now that
if the Com^r found ill humours gonne the bringing them together to

show that our differences were healed wold be of great use, & that the Com^r upon the place could judge. But if these lords had a mynd to stay they might do it, the parl^t could sit without them. I am to indeavour to speake the King this night concerning this that he be not prepossed, as I hope he will not be.

The Duchesse of Monmouth told me last night that E. T. hade been with her the night before, & after a tedious preamble of compliments for half an hour long, he beganne to speake to her of her busines with him. I must tell yow one of the passages of the preamble, he said he hoped she wold not judge of him by those impressions hade been given her to his prejudice, & some things to this purpose, she told him that she judged not of men neither by what others said of them nor by what they said themselves, but by their actions. He told her that he heard that she hade given orders to intent a law suit against him, & that he was very unwilling to have any busines at law with her, but what ever was in it he wold submitt it. And so told her a long storie of the case by which he wold make appeare that he hade got too little abated him. She told him that she understood not law, but if his case was cleare he could get no hurt, for she desyrd nothing from no body but what was just. They were interrupted, & so she expects another attempt, but I find she hath no reverent opinion of his lop, Nor of Mr. Snell for now turning his coat & meddling in that affaire to E. T. advantage, for she tells me that he hath been at her to perswad her to agree with E. T. & commending him much. And that he hath hade E. T. & I thinke D. H. at diner with him. But she sayes she hath no mynd to submit her cause, & if she do, it shall not be to her commissioners. I was with E. Oxford & delivered him your letter, which he receaved very kyndly; he told me that he hade been speaking with D. H. concerning our affairs. And that he hade said to him that he wondered how any body should be dissatisfied with D. L., for he knew him to be a wise & generous man, & hade governed Scotland better then ever it hade been governed, and said he what answer did he give me, D. L. said he hath 18000

lib. st: a yeare ; I wish it were six & thirty thowsand said E. O. for D. L. deserves it all, but what is that to the purpose, may not the King bestow his money as he pleases, bot I got no other answer said he, I told him that he hade made that accompt to others but explaind the falsnes of it. The Duchesse of Monmouth told me likewise diverse stories of D. H. w^h were tedious to write, but that excellent lady hath a very right opinion of him & his earand too, she is certainly a most worthy lady & a very good friend to your concernes. I was in hopes to have hade your expresse here by this tyme, but the last letters said nothing of it. Last night D. H. askt me if Mr. Forester was not come, I told him I heard nothing of his coming, he laught & said though I kept it a secret, yet he heard of it that he was come away a day before last post, said I he hade been here before now. He at last offered a wager of 10 lib, but when I held him he past from it yet still affirmd it, this is the Berwicke journey hath given this occasion.

ADieu.

XLIV.—THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE TO THE DUKE OF YORK.^a

[23136, f. 78b.]

Copie letter to the Duke.

I am forsed to wreit so much as to the King affairs hier & so often (which I know yi^e reed) that I was loth to trouble yi^e with my most humble deutie & thanks for y^r last letter off 13 Ja^{ry}.

Now the partie hier drayve so high & so inflame all the kingdom that I am forced to send an other expresse with my last humble adveice to his Ma^{tye} (because the floods mak the ordinarie paquit both slow & incertan) I have suffitiently informed E. K. what they

^a A copy in the hand of Charles Maitland.

do & what they dreive at. They keep ther dayly metings, They resave their expresses, This wik Sr Jo: Harper; They expect 3 mor on evry wick & yester day they have sent E. Dumfres & a Burges caled Sr pa: Moray with pretendit grivanses from the Burrous, it seemes they intend to have all transacted with the king at london Tho he hath a Coñisioner in this place, bot I most not trouble you with repetitions, I have once mor preseumed to offer my last adveice, & ane easie, sur, & I think a just remedie. I humbly lay it at his Ma^{tie} feet, I can say say no mor let him doe as he pleseth, I have presumed to tel the King that some of my frends at London proposed to me to mak an adresse to the Coñions in part: to desayer to be herd or I be condemned, others wold have me wreit or instruct my frends how to ansuer for me; bot I have told his Ma^{tie} that seeing I hier ther is voted no more bot an adresse to him, I will wreit nothing nor doe nothing without his order. I lay myself at his feet, let him doe with me what he pleseth. I am sur off y^r protection, be plesed to spek to the King & let him dispose off me & order anything to be said or not as he thinks best for himself, take notice that in my memore I doe shew how usles it wil be to tak off D. H. from the partie, I propose nothing to lessen him what he is bot if his Ma^{tie} doe not discourtenance the partie his affairs will ruen hier & then in gods name let him doe for D. H. what he pleseth, be plesed to tak notis also that E. Dumfres brought up the act off billeting. He goes now to act the 2^d part off the same, & can doe nothing bot Baule. I will trouble yow no mor now, bot most humbly kiss y^r hands.

L.

XLV.—THE EARL OF KINCARDIN TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23136, f. 173.]

Edenb: 4 July, '74.

* * * * *

Wee have been yesterday & to day at a committee of councell concerning a mutiny risen in some of the ministry of this place against their B^p concerning the motion of a nationall synod, upon which the B^p hath silenced Mr. Turner, Mr. Robison, & Mr. Cant for a month. It was whispered that they did not intend to give obedience, & therefore wee did take notice of it. But when they were called in before us they all did fully disoune any such designe, & promised to live in obedience to their ordinary, & to forbear any further prosecuting of that motion for a nationall synod for the futur, except they had the concurrence of the AB^{ps} & B^{ps}, so that wee dismiss them, & were glade to get out of the briers at that rate. It is strang that all sorts of people should thus grow mutinous together. I pray God avert what it threatens. * * *

 XI.VI.—THE ARCHBISHOP OF GLASGOW TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23137, f. 11.]

MAY IT PLEASE YO^r GRACE,Dec^r 17, [1674].

Because I was unwilling to give yo^r Grace any further trouble at parting at so mean a buisines, I did resolv to peece out y^e remainder of this year in this station, w^{ch} being now neer upon expiring, I could not think of a fitter way to signify my intention, then by y^e enclosed, being y^e very same individuall paper y^t I presented to yo^r Grace while yow were here. And I think it need-

lesse to say any more of y^e reasons mooving me to't, having then given yo^r Grace a true & short account of the main of them in a paper apart. Onely I crave leav to add this that upon y^e most impartiall reflexion I can make upon y^e temper of my mind in this matter, I cannot find that it proceeds from any pusillanimous impatience or wearines of y^e troubles of this employment, but rather from a great contempt of our own unworthy & trifling contentions of w^{ch} I have little other esteem then of a querelle d'Alman, or a drunken scuffle in the dark, & doe pity exceedingly to see a poor church doing its utmost to destroy both itself & religion in furious zeals & endlesse debates about y^e empty name & shadow of a difference in government, & in the mean while not having of solemn & orderly publick worship so much as a shadow. Besides I have one iust excuse, that grows daily truer, for though I keep not bedd much, nor am (I thank God) rack't with sharp & tormenting diseases, yet I can truely say that I am scarce ever free from some one or other of those pains & distempers that hang about this litle crazy turf of earth y^t I carry, w^{ch} makes it an uneasy burden to mee, but withall puts me in hopes y^t I shall shortly drop it into y^e coñion heap. Mean while my best relief will be to spend y^e litle remnant of my time in a private & retir'd life in some corner of England, for in y^e coñunion of y^t Church, by y^e help of God, I am resolv'd to live & die. That which I am humbly to intreat of yo^r Grace is y^e representing of this litle affair to his Ma^{tie}, & that in as favorable a manner as may bee, w^{ch} shall add very much to y^e many & great obligements of,

May it please yo^r Grace,

Yo^r Graces

Most humble servant,

R. LEIGHTON.

XLVII.—LORD ROSSE TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23136, f. 54.]

MAY IT PLEASE YO^r GRACE, Edinbrwghe, March 13 [1675].

I had not offred yo^r Grace this trwble bot that I thowght myselfe obleadged to give yo^r Grace ane trew and faithfwll accownt of a rencownter which hapned betwixt ane party of that Troope of his Maj^{ties} Horse wher of his Maj^{tie} hes honored me with the Comand, and a most nwmerows and insolent conventickll in the fealds neare to tarben, in the parishe of Bathgate^a; the trew relatione of which according to the best information wes thws. Upon intelligence that on Swnday the last of ffeb^{rj} ther wes a field conventickle to be keeped some wher near to Bathgate, a party was sent owt to looke after it, who accordingly did fall in with them neare to the above-mentioned place: at the first aproche of the party many who wer at the conventickle did reteare to a marash ground close by wher it wes not possible for the horse to attacke them; bot the party indeavoring to aprehend some of them who wer still wpon the place in hope to have fownd the preacher amongst them, at the sight of which thos who at the first had flead did returne, one of them saying would they see ther breathring oppresed, and that thos few perjwred dogs wouold not be a mowthfwll to them; wpon which he who comanded the party fownd him selfe obleadged to abandon his prisoners to defend himselfe, and at the firste aproche he charged them civilly in his Maj^{ties} name to disipate themselves, promising no violence showld be done to them who showld give obedience, bot the returne which they gave back wes by the firing of some pistols or other fire locks at them with which insolens being mwch provoked they did fire wpon them backe againe, by which one of that insolent crew wes kild, at the sight of which the rest did rwne for it, newer the les the party did bring off 15 of them prisoners who ar now in the Tolboth of Ed^r; ther hes bean a great deall of

^a Cf. Wodrow, ii. 280.

noyse made abowt it as if thes gentillmen had provoked them to it, and some are pleasd to call it mwrder which wes done, bot what ever is said I will ashewre yo^r Grace this is the trew and certain accompt with which I feare I have wearied yo^r Grace's patience and for which I humbly crave pardone. I am beyond all expresione sencible of the many wndeserved favores I stand ingadged wnder to yo^r Grace, and in all things shall stwdy to make it my care to evidence how much in sincerity I am

Yo^r Graces most fathfwll and obedient servant,
ROSSE.

XLVIII.—THE HON. CHARLES MAITLAND TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23137, f. 64.]

Holyroodhous, 3 August [1675].

MY DEAR LORD MAY IT PLEASE YR GRACE,

My last sent yow the full purport of the tounce off Ed^r afair. I hop ye ar convinced that no deley was on my part bot what was inevitable, & I hop all is done vere well. By the lest Lo: p seale^a gave my lady a full acompt as he told me off all maters, espetially off D. Hamiltoun & how E. Aboyne is cume off the partie, & that E. Quensberrie descins the same. Now I most tel yow that by this hangs a storie, It is now discovered that E. K. & S^r W^m Bruce wer reconseled befor he went hence. That this was in order to a frendship tuixt Chan^r^b & E. K. which by many circumstanses I observe hes ever since contineud & Inressed, yet this hes not ben so privatly cared on ; bot the D. off H. hes discovered it, & this is the trew raiseⁿ off the spetches the D. hes maid to L. p: seale, for D. H. found himself at a lose as not being considered in this frendship,

^a Athol.

^b Rothes.

& we now understand that the partie hes been at drauing of dagers upon jelouse off this; for this peace was maid upon this basis that E. K.^a being confident to stand upon his oune legs at court he was to Indevour all to be done by the Chanslour hier & by himself ther. This is the proposition, and the D. off H. being at this pace hes maid him sound this retret. The last wick E. Aboyne did fairly give up with the Chanslour, & since that tyme his lo: is observed to be in very bad heumor which doeth publikly apier even beyond what ever I see. He tuok his colik^b yesterdey & is not yet vere wele; for Aboyne doeth begine & will continow to tel strang stories. Lo: priveseale, E. lithgow, wigton, & Aboyne, deind att Haltoun with me yesterday & cam in at night hither, he voued the vous off Alexander, aknowledged frankly he had ben ever wrong, that he was sensible off his error, & y^t By god he wold be no mor & iff he could be capable to serve yow he vold doe it on any termes. He hopid ye wold acept him, tho he deserved it not at y^r hands, & beged I wold tel yow somuch y^t he was resolved to signefi under his oune hand & a great daile mor he said to this purpos. That he had assurenc of quensberrie to cum off the party & that he wold mack uss off the first oportuntie to bring him to toun & declar himself. By all this ye se they ar in a fair way to brek amongst themselves all to pises, & it is fit to incuradg it for what ever they may signefie asunder it is fit to mak use off this apirance off an open breth. That so they being no more a partie, The King's service will certainly goe smoothly & The Chanslour can not stand alone for all his pretendit help with E. K. I shall be able to say mor hierafter off this befor we part

* * * * *

^a The first notice of the breach with Kincardin.

^b Brought on, says Burnet, by excessive drinking.

XLIX.—ARCHBISHOP BURNET ^a TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23137, f. 110.]

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE, Edinburgh, Febr: 19, 1676.

Wee have seen an address to your Gra/ by my Lord primat and som other Bishops heer, representinge ther sence of the evill consequences bothe of the first and of a further Indulgence whiche hathe been so muche, and by the disaffected so confidentlie discoursed heer; whiche papper wee approve, and not onlie assert the truthe of it as to matters of fact, but likwayse have the sam prospect of the great hazard that is lik to ensue upon it.^b

Upon the spreaddinge of that report; wee find a sensible encrease of, and a greater tendencie to confusion: Thos Indulged observinge noe limits prescryb'd by lawe, The Conventiclinge ministers beinge inor avowed in ther separat meetings, especiallie in our western corner: wherupon the people have not onlie shaken of all reverence to authoritie, bot almost all sence of religion, whiche threatne bothe churche and state with a mor hastie and sad trouble then wee ar willinge to prognostick.

The eminent services your Gra/ hath don to his sacred Majestic, and the great advantage this poor church hath by your Gra/ beinge so neer unto him, gives us not onlie hops of your Gra/ pardon for the frequent troubles wee have offered you, bot also great encouragement to plead, And that Importunatic with your Gra/ to acquaint our Gracious Master with the present circumstances of our case, That in his royalle wisdom he may think on the best expedients for quyettinge our present confusions, for preventinge of futur evils, which they ar ripping, and for securinge the Interest of religion, his Majesties authority, and the peace of this his ancient kingdom. What wee can contribut by our assiduous and earnest

^a Alexander Burnet had been living in retirement since his resignation in 1669.

^b A fresh proclamation against conventicles was issued March 1, 1676.

prayers to the Almighty God in behalf of his sacred Majestie and by our Loyall services in our stations shall (according to our capacities by divyn assistance) not be wantinge: neither shall wee cease to solicit the thron of God for additions both to your Gra/ honor and your happines as the just reward of the indefatigable and zealous cair your Gra/ hath taken for the neer concernes of the Kinge and Churchc, of which non can be mor sensible then

Your Gra/

Most humble and obedient

Servants,

ALEX: GLASCUEN:

ARTH: LISMOREN:

L.—MARGARET LESLIE^a TO THE DUCHESS OF LAUDERDALE.

[23137, f. 117.]

Wemyss, 25 Apryll [1676.]

It is so long a tym in my rakning since I haird from your grace that I begin to fear some abatement of that favour and good opinion, I am soor your grace once had for me. My ambition to have your grace favour continewed with me, & the sutle and malicious ways which are ordinarily wsed by thos who hate me, maks me the more adprehensive they have doon me wrong at your grace hands; if I be mistaken I shall be very glead, & will hope for pardon without much deficultie, your grace knoing that such a mistake thogh it be a weakness does proceed from anc ingenious & honest mynd which in all my professions of dewte & respect I will indeavour to preserve in my self to the last moment of my lyf.

On thursday last my Lord kincardin geve my lord and me a visiet hier, he cam a litle befor super & went to leslie nixt day, by

^a Countess of Wemyss, inother of the Duchess of Monmouth.

what he spok I fund his heart full of resentment & I did my best to devert the cours of it by bringing in other matters, bot in some things I was forced to take him up shortly & to let him know that I both understood & abhorred the desyn of his visiet: that which he was most earnest in was to have the diferance betuixt my lord chanslur^a and my son Melvill removed, & did offer himself to mediat betuin them & siemed asured of bringing the busines to ane acord, to which I returned no answer: madam, I well enough understood the tendencie of this litle intrige & I purpos never to use my Lord kincardin's cowncell or moyen in that wholl matter, bot shall rather let it goe to rwine befor I be oblidge to a person I persev hes so ill a designe upon me, a litle tym will mak it apear at what rate I velow the friendship of those I am oblidge to, and how faithfull & constant I shall be to my self, and it will be easie for me to be so if your grace continow your former favor and good-will, so highly uelowed by

I byg your
Grace will
present my
most humble
service to your
noble good lord.

To the Duchess of Lauderdale.

Your Grace most faithfull humble
servant & cusin
MARGARET LESLIE.

^a See Charles Maitland's letter of Aug. 3, 1675.

LI.—THE HON. CHARLES MAITLAND TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23138, f. 9.]

Holyroodhous, 4 July [1676].

* * * * *

It hes ben concluded that the taking off hill pretchers is the fittest & surest remedie to suppressse conventikles &c. & now when any off them ar taken see what work we have to get ther rescew bot notised. The partie^a now bends all ther strenth to incuradg all manner of disorders whither phanatiks Borderers or Highlanders, & to hund (?) out the Lauers under pretence off law tho rather illegall & irregular, & in all this what pitefull fighting leif have we & what a strang thing is it that ther should be no dificulties met with bot in prosecuting the King's autoritie & peace & order: all Europ is in warre & we under the King's government ar in peace with all the world & yet we ar that perverse that our bad hewmors most oppose that autoretie that gives uss that peace & aloueth us every man to live wnder his oun veine tree and so my dearest lord. Adew.

My most humble service to my lady Duches.

LII.—THE COMMITTEE OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL FOR CON-
VENTICLES^b TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23138, f. 13.]

Edinburgh, 6th Julie, 1676.

The Councill last week being informed of ane Insolent ryot committed by Bailie of Jarvaswood in contempt of the king's autho-

^a *i.e.* the "faction"—Hamilton, Tweeddale, and their adherents.

^b For this Committee, see Wodrow, ii. 234.

ritie in this place at midday did appoynt the committe appoynted for conventicles to examin this case who having called Jarvaswood before them and having questioned him anent his Rescuing of mr. James Kirktoun (declared fugitive) and he having acknouledged his guilt therof by forcing up of the door of the room where Captain Carstairs had this Mr. Kirktoun in custodie by a warrant from the Committe^a and that he drew his sword and took Kirktoun out of Carstairs hands, upon this ground the Committe ordained Jarvaswood to be cited before the Councill, and the king's advocat having drawen the Lybell against him, the day of Compeerance wes on Tuesday last: in this mater so cleir by the Defender's acknouledgment and the Insolence it self and the affront done to the Kings authoritie so great wee could not but have expected a verie smoth procedure to a sutable sentence for so eminent a guilt, and wee cannot bot say that wee were strangelic surprised to see a long & tedious debate of at least three hours mantained by the Duke of Hamiltoun, the Earle of Kincardin^b & the Lord Cochran, & Earle of Dumfries, who with much confidence debated against the Relevancie of the Lybell, and, which is strange, against the probation, even tho it wer the defender his oun Confession subscribed with his hand. To give accompt of the particular expressions in so tedions a debate is impossible; bot the sum of all that was sayed wes Justifying the defender, and that the fact done by him wes neither illegall nor unwarrantable, and in this it wes thought more strange that the Earle of Kincardin who (as The Lord Privie Seal Reports to ws) had made so great professions to the Kings Majestic himself and had given such assurances of his prosecution of his Maj Interest that he in this so eminent a circumstance should have made so much opposition. It hes been always thought that the seizing and securing of those hill preachers wer the cheef mean to suppress field conventicles, and this being the

^a Burnet, i. 400, declares that Carstairs had no warrant, and that, after his apprehension, a warrant was antedated, to cover the illegal act.

^b Now in active sympathy with the party. See, for this affair, Burnet, i. 400, who gives precisely the account, *mutatis mutandis*.

first assay, it wes unanimouslie thought amongst us that what wes done or sayed against that wes one of the greatest means and Instru-ments to overthrow the king's authoritie & disturb the peace of the kingdom, and this made us the more zealous and intent to punish the first Insolent attempt wherein wee litle expected to have mett with this opposition. And wee cannot bot represent to his Majestie the dangerous condition the exercise of his Authoritie is in If he take not some speedie cours to prevent these obstructions for the future.

[*Draft by S^r W. Sharp of letter from the Conncill ?*]

LIII.—THE DUCHESS OF MONMOUTH TO THE COUNTESS OF WEMYS.

[23138, f. 15.]

MADAM,

Whithall, July 26 [1676 ?].

I did wrett to the Duhess of Laudrdall the next day after I resavd her letter, I shall take ocaion to wrett soon again, and thank her for her kindnes to y^r L/. I wish I may hear good news of my Lord Melvil's busines and my own. I dout not but that the Duhess of Laudrdall will do all she can becaws she promist to do so, and the Duk too, tho I do belive if the Duches hade not mor intrest with the Duke then his brother hase ^a I might exspeckt litle favor, for my Lord Hatton carid himself to me as if I had dun him som great iniurie, as far as looking can exspres aungr, for when I saw him att Ham, which was the first time afr his arivill, he walkt two hours three rooms of looking one me without ever coming in or taking anie kind of notice of me, and was to see me but once at my Lodgens, and I heard, but am not sure, that the Duke made

^a Lauderdale is stated to have had a hearty contempt for him.

him com then, but this as I remember I did troubl y^r L^a with befor, I can not but fear that he should mak the Duke belive somthing to my preiudice, for so I would esteem it if he maks him les kind to me, which I do not deserve, for I do realy love him and the Dukes veri well, and have bine verie kindly wsed by her when we parted. I have not bine verie well of lait, which is the reason I have not wrettin so oftn as I ws to do. My children are well. I am,

Madam,

Y^r La^a obedent dutifull child,

A. BUCCLEUCH.

LIV.—THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE TO THE EARL OF DANBY.^a

MY LORD,

Lethington, 28 August, 1677.

Thogh I have not given yo^r Lo the trouble of any letter of mine since my coming into this kingdome, having little to say worth yo^r trouble, and being most confident of yo^r L^{ops} justice to me in beleiving this great truth, that in all places I am most entirely & sincerely yo^r most faithfull servant; yet I can no longer forbear, being informed by this last post of your former friendship in the business of that little rogue Murray (whom my Lord Shaftesbury in his letter stiled Deare M^r Murray), but I much admire the great scruples now in sending him to Scotland, seing the course taken was advised and declared legall by the Lord Chancellor and the Attorney-Generall, and when the Councell of Scotland's letter was thought ground enough for taking and sending him even at the Comitte of forraine affaires when the letter was read and the order given; and then neither the Chancellor, nor Secretarie Coventric, nor the Attorney, made not the least scruple. We shall send another letter without mentioning what was in the former, and

^a From the Collection of John Webster, Esq. M.P.

yo^r Lo shall see it before it be delivered ; to the end you may order it as you finde it wil-be effectuall or not. He is a pestilent fellow, & keeps dangerous correspondences hear.

I hope from the next Councill day at Edinbrough, the 4th of Sept^r, to write to give you ane account of something considerable to the King's service hear, even the bringing all the Officers of State to be at the King's pleasure who were before during life. So with the tender of my humble service to yo^r Noble lady,

I am,

My Lord,

Yo^r Lo^s most humble and

faithfullest servant,

LAUDERDALE.

LV.—THE DUKE OF YORK TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.^a

[23138, f. 61.]

St. James, Sep: 12: 1677.

I could not refuse this bearer Barclay, a Quaker,^b to write to you, in favour of him, and his father Colonel Barclay, that you would be as favorable to them as you could as to the inconveniencies which may happen to them by reason of their perswasion in point of Religion, and that which makes me write about these two Quakers, is, that as this bearer informs me, he is some way related to our family, one S^r Gourdon, I thinke he called him S^r Robert, that came into England with King James, being his grand, or great grand father, which if so, sure both he and his father will deserve some favour, though that they have the misfortune to be

^a The Duke and Duchess had gone up to Scotland.

^b James was always favourable to the Quakers, their principles of complete tolerance bring in accord with his views for the Catholics in England. His connection with William Penn will be recollected.

Quakers. This being the only subject of this letter, I shall say no more, only to assure you that you shall always find me the same to you.

JAMES.

LVI.—LORD DUNDONALD TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23138, f. 67.]

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

I had occasion at my coming west to come heer to the shyre of Ayre ffor doeing of some of my affaires. At my being heer, I faud such insolent abuses coñitted That I thought it my duety to give your Gr. ane accompt theirof, ffor not onely are the conventicles very frequent especialy in Carrick where they are kepted in every parosh allmost every week, And have deserted their oune paroshes which they frequented formerly, Bot they allso take wp the churches that are planted and preaches in y^m, as they did in Tarbolltoun on Sabath wes a sevenny^t., & its probable will doe the lyke in other places. I ame certainly informed yesterny^t That Mr. Welsh hes intimat a coñunion to be cellebrat at Garven w^t in Carrick on Sunday next, And a house building on purpose for y^t effect, And their is a contribution gathering in Mayboil to build ane other house their; I gote allso advertisement yesternight that seven or eight armed men brake in at a window of the Min^rs house of Tarbolltoun and searched all the house for the Min^r. who wes that night abroad, and they commanded his servantes to tell him that if ever he preached their againe he should die the next day. If thir abuses be not tymeously prevented it may come to a greater hight which I wish may be speediely thought wpon. These are from

Your Gr. most humble servant,

DUNDONALD.

Auchants, 24th octo^r. 77.

[*N.B.* only signed.]

LVII.—THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE TO THE EARL OF DANBY.*

MY LORD,

Holyroodhous, 8th Novemb. 1677.

I give the King as little immediate trouble by wryting to himself as is possible ; yet I must continue to let him by yo^r Lordship know what we are doing every week at least, and what I thinke fitt for his service.

I gave ane account before what orders were given and noblemen sent for making ready a good bodie of Highlanders and others (if the phanaticks in the west should rise in armes). And lately I gave notice what orders we had given for calling together the gentlemen of those two most disaffected shires, not that we expected much from them, but to try their puls and render them inexcusable. We have got a returne from them such as I expected ; they pretend they cannot suppress these disorders, that is to say they will doe nothing towards it. Of this we could take no further notice than to keep it as ther answer ; for we are not ready, because we have no returne from any of the noblemen wee employed, except only from the Marquis of Athole and the Earle of Murray, who assure us they have made ready fourteen hundred men whenever they shall be called for. We expect from all the other Lords ane account before Tuesday next. In the meantime they doe not rise in armes in the west. How soone they may take armes no man can tell ; for, as I have often said, they are perfityly fifth monarchye men, and no judgment can be made upon the gronde of reason what they may attempt ; and therefor all preparations possible are to be made in case they rise, for this game is not to be played by halves, we must take this opportunity to crush them, so as they may not trouble us any more in hast, or else we are to expect to be thus threatened by them nixt year.

It is long since that I begd that my Lo Granard might be ordered to the sea coast in the North of Ireland, with such a force

* From the Collection of John Webster, Esq., M.P.

of hors and foote as he had before, and it is long since I had notice that the orders were gone for that purpose, but I have never got notice of their arrival in the North, only from diverse hands I heare they are arrived. Now my humble desire is that the King wold send immediat orders into Ireland, That my Lord Granard may come over into Scotland upon the first call from the King's Privie Councill in Scotland, and that he may immediately send over to me one whom he trusts, that I may know his condition and his readiness, and that we agree the time and manner of his transportation before we call him.

You may assure his Maj^{tie} we shall not call for that partie out of Ireland if we finde we can probably doe his business without them, but if what we propose heir in this kingdome should not answer our expectation, it will be too late to send for orders, and therefor I hope the King will trust us heir and send such order to Ireland, and in the first place appoint my Lord Granard to send to me a trustie man to the end he may know our condition, and we know his. This is the unanimous opinion of the King's most trustie servants heir, and therefore I humbly desire to know his Maj^{ties} pleasure upon it. This is all can now be said by

My Lord,

Yo^r Lo^s most humble and
most obedient servant,

LAUDERDALE.

I doe not easily beleiv reports, nor does I ther I am to write (*sic*), but I dare not conceale what I heare. From the west I am told it is reportid that the Earl of Arran, & not Lo Granard, is to coñand the Irish partie. Trust me, my Lord, such a change wold be destructive.

LVIII.—THE EARL OF DANBY TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23138, f 71.]

MY LORD,

London, 15 Nov. 1677.

I have received y^r Graces of the 8th instant, & show'd it to the King himselfe, who imediately calld a Comittee of Forreigne affaires upon the contents of itt, & has ordered that a letter bee writt to my L^d Granard to comand him to send one to y^r Grace to confer wth you about all the matters necessary to be considered both in Scotland & Ireland, in order to the suppressing of any rising in Scotland.^a His Ma^{tie} does extremely approve the course you have taken of haveing some of the noblemen & their dependencies in a readinesse upon occasion, & is as sensible as y^r Grace could wish of the backwardnesse of some others of them who make excuses in stead of doeing their duties. Hee has also comanded a letter to bee writt to the Duke of Newcastle to order a thousand of the militia of Northumberland to bee in readinesse to give you assistance if there should bee need, & has ordered my L^d Frescheville's troop & S^r F^r Compton's to march to Alnewick & to quarter there for some time. His Ma^{tie} has also directed that all these, viz. from Ireland, the 2 troops of my L^d Oxford's Regiment, & hee who must comand the 1000 men of the Northumberland militia, do all receive & obey such orders as they shall receive from the Councill of Scotland. There are many other things (as particularly about laying provisions somewhere neare y^e sea for those men you expect from Ireland, &c.) of w^{ch} y^r Grace will have an account more att large from Sec: Coventry; the sec^y had received a letter from my L^d Granard, dated from Belfast since his arrivall there wth the party.

Yo^r Grace's last letter before this w^{ch} contained only y^r complements to the Pr: of Orange upon his marriage, I shew'd to his

^a Burnet, i. 417.

Hignesse, & said what became mee on that subiect in y^r Grace's behalfe. Hee seemed to bee very well satisfied wth what I said to him, & desired mee to present his service to y^r Grace & thanks for the kindnesse you had expresst to him both by mee & my L^d Maynard. Both hee and his Princessse goe away early to morrow toward's Holland, although they are like to bee up late this night at a Ball, being the Queene's birthday. I have neither time nor conveniency by the Post to say more to your Grace then that I am unfeignedly,

My Lord,
 Yo^r Graces most humble &
 most obedient servant,
 DANBY.

Bee pleased to present my most humble service to the Dutchesse.

LIX. - THE DUKE OF YORK TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23138, f. 73.]

London, November 24 [1677].

I am so fully perswaded of the part you always take in any thing that concerns me, that even without what you said to me in your letter, I should have beleved the great satisfaction it was to you, to heare of my having a sonne, I thanke God both the Dutchesse and he are very well, and so is my Daughter Anne, who had risen out of hir bed this day, but that it is so excessive cold; the P. and P^s of Orange were driven back by contrary winds to Sheernesse, and from thence went to Canterbury where they intend to stay till the wind coms faire and then embarke at Margate, which is all I shall say now, but that you shall always find me the same to you.

LXX.—THE EARL OF PERTH TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23138, f. 75.]

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE, *

When I received that letter from the Councill which your Grace subscribed, I went about my duty in relation to it, & tho I could always have promised to have attended his sacred Majestic's commands with all my friends, and followers, yet I delayed to signify so much to your Grace until I found I might do it from my assurance, gathered from their own readiness to comply with a thing so much tending to their honor, & so necessarily their duty :^a Now I can promise for them. And if my own power were equal to my zeal for the advancement of the Royall Interest, I should yield to no mortal: but, as I said once before to your Grace, that which made my family in some capacity to appear being now at so low an ebb, great matters are out of my reach: but a Mite in charity, if it be all one's living, outvies the largest sums of the richer offerers; so my life & fortune being all I can employ in my master's service none can offer more; & I am sure none can offer that more willingly. My Lord Your Grace I hope needs no solicitation to make you so much a friend to my poor despised familie as to represent it (if others be delt so by) as very faithfull hertofore; so all I shall plead is to be looked on as willing and forward that way as any before me (even those who had the honor of a nearer relation to their princes) tho far lesse worthy, or capable to do any service, I

* This refers to perhaps the worst act of Lauderdale's rule, the letting loose 8,000 Highlanders at free quarters upon the west. It was with the full approbation of the Bishops, and I think at their suggestion, that this was done. Perth, hoping to raise his fortunes by compliance, is eager in co-operation. Within a year disappointment turns him and Athol into stormy opponents of Lauderdale. These Highland nobility were absolutely selfish. (See pp. 95, 107.)

shal not any longer detean your Grace from more necessarie things
save to tell yow that uith very much sense of Duty I am

May it please your Grace
Your Graces most obedient faithfulest and
most humble servant

PERTHE.

Drammond 3^d Dec :

77.

LXI.—THE BISHOP OF LONDON TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23138, f. 79.]

MY LORD,

Whitehall, Dec. 14, 1677.

Though that particular service I have for you in relation to my private concerns would not need y^e giving you y^e trouble of any further assurance to y^e interruption of your better employment ; yet the gratitude our whole Church owes to you for y^e very great protection & encouragement you give to those of its principles in Scotland, engages me in y^e name of as many of my brethren as I have yet seen, to acknowledge all possible thanks, & to assure you of a resentment that will omit no opportunity of ever doing you y^e best of our services. There is an importunate person unknown to me, has persecuted me with two letters already, and threatens yet more, which I have comitted to M^r Forster's hands to informe you of according to his discretion, if it be worth spoyling so much paper. I am sure I can tell you no news which you will not have from better hands.

My Lord,

Your Graces most faithfull
humble servant,

H. LONDON.

I beg my most humble
service to my Lady Dutches.

LXII.—SUGGESTIONS BY THE BISHOPS OF SCOTLAND FOR THE
SUPPRESSION OF CONVENTICLES IN THE WEST.^a

[23138, f. 81.]

When the forces march into the west it wold seem expedient—

1°. That a Comittee of council went along with them, who may be empowered to fine confine imprison or banish as they find cause; w^{ch} committee may consist of such officers and comanders as are privie counsellours, viz. the M. of Athole, Earles of Marr, iinlithgow, Airlie, and Cathness; the lord Ross, and the E. of Glencarne and Perth may be by the council's autoritie adjoynd to them and also the L. Collinton if he may be spard from the session.

2°. that these western shyres sould be disarmed, and their armes to be transported to Stirling or Edinburgh Castle.

3°. That all horses in possession of these disaffected people, which are above ye value of 40 or fiftie li^{bs} scots, sould be taken from them at such rates as they shalbe estimated unto.

4°. That the forces setle first at Aire, having rested some few days at Glasgow, Aire being the centre of a great circle of y^e dissaffected; and after having reduced Carrick and censured the conventiclers in those parishes who are served by indulged ministers, they may goe to Lanerick and Clidsdale, and so forward to y^e stewartrie of Kirkcudbright and the shyre of Galloway; in w^{ch} places since the forces are to have free quarters, particuar care wold be taken, that the burthen therof may be upon y^e guiltie, and thus y^e innocent and orderlie people will find y^mselvs eased and encouraged to continue in y^r orderlines and obedience.

5°. Wherever the Forces ly, the Comittee wold call befor them the transgressors; and in y^e first place wold cause rase to the ground all their new-erected meeting houses and punish: the builders therof, as prime incendiaries; and proceed against such who have mett at field conventicles or have resett or entertained Welsh, Arnot, or

^a See Wodrow, ii. 383, for the instructions actually given.

anie other intercoñmuned preachers according to y^r severall estates with proportionable fynes, w^{ch} they wold take care to cause raise with the greatest diligence; and because the guilt of field conventicling is great, and the paine arbitrarie, therfor the fynes to be exacted wold be such as may be smartlie felt by the transgressors, in all which speciall regard wold be had that y^e Ringleaders and chief abbettors of these disorders should be condignelic punished as promoters of sedition and rebellious courses; who if they be heretors, deserve to be deeplie fyned, and also jmprisoned; and if they be persons of no estate, some notable corporall punishment wold be inflicted upon them in terrorem.

6^o. All means wold be used for apprehending and seizing the persons of Welsh, Arnot, etc. and for encoraging such as will bring them in, and deliver ym to anie officer, etc. assurance wold be given them of their being discharged from whatever fynes imposed or to be imposed on them, and that they shalbe exempted from quarterings on themselvs or tennants and that they shalbe further rewarded.

7^o. all such fynes as are to be Levyed wold be carefullie brocht in to y^e cash-keeper to Ly as a fund to reward such as shall approve themselvs most faithfull and diligent in the present service; and his matie would be humblie moved that those fynes may be so applied.

8^o. The Coñmittee wold also oblige all the heretors in these countreys to take the oath of alledgiance, and cause them give bonds that themselvs tennants and servands, shall hereafter carrie themselvs peaceablie and orderlie, and live in obedience to the Law; and such who shall refuse so to doe, wold be censured and punished as the council shall ordain.

9^o. when these places are reduced, then the Comittee and Forces may goe into Tiviotdale, and then to Stirlingshyre and to Fife, and observe the same method and instructions for suppressing disorders and the disaffected there. But in all this or where the forces shall begin or end this service and in what shyres or districts, may be

most advysedlie determined by the Coꛃmittee and officers forsaïd as they sall see most reasonable.

For keeping these shyres ih order and obedience for the tyme to come, it wold seem expedient

1°. That Besides the oath of alledgiance, and bonds to be exacted from all heretors ut supra for securing the persons and families of orthodox and orderlie ministers against injurie and violence, and keeping the severall parishes free of conventicles, the heretors of each parish sould give sufficient bonds, under the forfeiture of six or seven thousand marks at least.

2°. Since under the pretence of furnishing the militia, armes are brought in among the disaffected people in great quantities, it seems adviseable that the militia in these shyres should be quite discharged by his Ma^{tie}; and the horses and armes being once out of ye possession of those people, this wold seem to follow of its owne accord.

3°. Garrisons may be constantlie kept in Glasgo, aire and Kirkcudbright, and sometymes in Dumfrise and Lanerk, for keeping ane constant dread and awe, over the disaffected, and for assisting the persons intrusted by the council for punishing disorders in the shyres and districts about them, in levying fynes etc. and it wold seem convenient that no part of the forces should ly longer in any of these townes, then three moneths at one tyme, that by their constant changing of their quarter, the people may see such forces to be amongst them, as may suffice to keep them in order and peace.

4°. The persons intrusted for noticing and punishing disorders in ye severall shyres etc. wold be requyred to doe their duetie according to their instructions, and sett dyets wold be appoynted to them for giving ane account of their diligence to the Privie Council, w^{ch} wold be steddilie done, and carefullie exacted from tyme to tyme.

5°. For rendring this whole service the more effectuall, the

Coñmittee alreadie appoynted for Church affairs wold constantlie and steddilie goe on at Edinb^r, and wold keep constant and sure intelligence and correspondence with that Committee w^{ch} shalbe appoynted to goe along with the Forces.

Endorsed :

Memor, by the Bps anent what is fit to be done for suppressing disorders in the west.

Dec^r. 21, 1677.

[*In hand* of Jo. Paterson Bp. of Galloway aft^{rs} of Edinburgh.]

LXIII.—THE EARL OF ATHOL TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23138, f. 83.]

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

I received the honnour of y^r letter saturday night, & an order & Comission from his Majesties Privie Councell to have the Heretores of Perthshire in readiness to march to Sterlin the 24 of januarie, I am to write to y^e Heretores to meet me the 8 of jan:^{re} at Perth, that I may lett them know the Councell's pleasure. I had waited on y^r Gr: the next Councell day had it not bin for this, for it had bin impossible to have them or my owne Men in readiness without my stay, but I hope to kiss y^r Gr: handes before the 24 of jan:^{re}; I doubt not but his Majestic, by your advice, has made a very good choice of the Earle of Linlithgoe to be Major Generall & Commander in Chiefe of all forces, horse & foott, raised or to bee raised, I was never wanting in my advice when called, though it signified very little, much less shall I be wanting in any action I am capable off, that conscernes his Majesties service, for I have when others have not, & shall continue still in that duty nor shall I ever faile in

my faithfullness to your Grace, if you will but allow me still the
honnour of the tyle of being sincerely,

May it please y^r Grace,

Y^r Gr: most obedient oblidge &
most humble servant,

ATHOLL.

Tallibardine, 31 Dec^r, 1677.

LXIV.—THE DUKE OF YORK TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23133, f. 86.]

London, Feb. 11 [1674].

I received some dayes since yours of the 19 of last month, but we have been so very busie ever since, that I have had but very little tyme to my self, and was very glad of having any occation to shew any kindnesse to any who you, or the Dutchesse of Lauderdale, are concerned in, and do assure you you shall always find me the same to yow. I have now another affaire to write to you of, it is that this morning I was advertised by one of our best intelligencers, that the Phanaticks in Scotland have a design upon the Castel of Edenburg, with in a weeke he tells me I shall know more of there design, both here as well as with you. I have not tyme to say more.

LXV.—JAMES, EARL OF ARRAN,^a TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[Charles's views on the Western Invasion.]

[23133, f. 93.]

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

This morning I waited upon his majesty in his bedchamber, where there was the Bishops of Winchester and Chichester, and a

^a Afterwards 4th Duke of Hamilton.

great many others. As soon as his majesty see me, he called me to him and said aloud, that at last he had gott the paper from E. Cassels,^b and that he had given it to my Lord Maynard, to send it to the Duke of Lauderdale, to be considred, and answered in the Councell of Scotland. That for his part he thoght it a very silly paper, and that he could make a shift to ansvere it himself, although he was no lawer, Yet he knew Scotland pritty well. Then he said that it was a strange thing, that he had been tormented for severall weeks, with horrible complaints of the cruelty and outrages done in the west of Scotland, yet He had done them faire play, for he had cause send down to Scotland as many complaints as he could gett ; and that he had now received a full account of the wholl proceedings in the west, and that it was from persons he wold trust, that he found all to be false as hell, and that there was nothing done there but what was done by law, and that things were not pushed so farr as the law allowed ; that as he was a Christian he did not see what els could be done, to prevent open rebellion : that he approved of what was done, and that he thoght himself obliged in duety not to fall in a snare a second tyme, that he was now resolved to be befor hand with the Phanaticks, that he was sure they made use of religion as a pretence only, that he understood their desseins; and to show religion was not there business, he had granted them indulgence, and allowed them there oun ministers, but that wold not serve turne for they withdrew, and railed more at these ministers then they did against the Bishops, That now matters were come to that hight, that there was a necessity to use severity, for that now they kept feeld conventicles of 3 or 4 thousand men most armed. Then his Majesty said to the Bishop of Winchester, that a special freind of his, I mean of the King's, had complained of the severity of quartering, which He answered by telling him of a severer course in England, that is that the hundred of Twitnham had payed alone, in one year, three thousand pound sterling for Robberys committed in Hontsloheath: which

• Wodrow, ii. 433. He inherited his father's principles.

they had not committed, nor could not prevent, and that he thought that indeed very hard and severe, but, said his Majesty, that person told me it was so, but yet it was by law; then said the King, I answered that the quartering in Scotland was as much by law, and in cases of lesse consequence; for my cash keeper can send men upon free quarter to compell people to pay my renew. The Bishop of Winchester said, he thought it wold be much for his Majestys service to cause print a relation of all the late proceedings of the Councill of Scotland, that it wold disabuse people much, and doe his servants in Scotland justice and right: The King said he wold certenly doe it, but he expected some fuller accounts from Scotland, and then he wold doe it, then his Majesty said to me, there was one very pritty passage, that there was a certain person of Scotland, that had complained, how the proceedings of the counsell had ruined his estate, that the bond made all his tennants run away, but the jest is he hath no tennants, but a miserable annuity. I said I knew ane other scots man now in England, that had gotten ane estate in Scotland from his Majesty for his service against the rebels in sixty-six, and that this estate did belong to a phanaticke, that now this gentleman had changed his opinion, and wold not answer or give bond for his tennants. His Majesty said he knew scotland as well as any body, that he had been in it in the worst of tymes, that he was sure it was so farr from being unjust and severe, to make gentle men answer for there tennants, that he knew it was the easiest thing in the world for them to doe it, that there was no natione or kingdome in the world, where the tennants had so great a dependance upon the gentle men, as in Scotland, and he was glad it was so, and that therfor they must be answerable for there tennants, that all they were to doe was to punish them according to law, when they went to Conventicles, aither by delivering them into the hands of Justice or turning them out of there land, and that if evry body did so, they wold certenly be peacable, when no body could receive them, and I am sure, said the King, the Commons in Scotland can doe nothing without a

head, but there are some people, that because they are not In themselves, and have a prejudice at some who serve me in Scotland, and therfor they must fall upon me, and stir up these people to rebellion, but they are fools and know not there own Interest, for it is a foolish thing for scots men to complain or make worke heir, or to endeavour a Rebellion in scotland, for if it should begin there, and afterwards come into England, and that England should turne Common welth, Scotland wold be a province nixt summer after. He said he thought they wold not leik that well, I said it was not very pleasant the last tyme the tryed it, and that those persons had as good estates and as much to loose as any body.

This is the most of what I remember, but I assure your Grace that the King takes more painse to justify the Councell and you then your Grace wold doe your self, and sayeth very strong reason upon all things upon all occasions, and he loves to talke of it to evry body. I never have the honour to be by but he begins the discourse, and with great earnestnes doth endeavour to convince people. My humble oppinion is, that your Grace wold be pleased to send up such a relation of the proceedings of and against the Phanaticks since the Kings restauration, that it may be printed, it wold certenly be very acceptable to the King; it wold doe him great service and yow right, and render the Phanaticks excuseles: I humbly aske your Pardon for this boldnes and intreat yow to beleev I hav a great passion to serve your Grace in all things.

28 March, 1678.

I have presumed to send your Grace a snuffe box which I broght from Rome; I had sent it sooner, but it was a litle rusted.

LXVI.—NARRATION BY EARL OF MORAY, SIR JAMES FOWLER
OF COLLINGTON, SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE OF ROSE-
HAUGH, TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23138, f. 97].

Upon the 9 of Aprill, 1678,

We mett the king in the antichamber as he was coming from the garden wher we kisd his Mai: hand and followed him in to his bedchamber. My Lord Murray did deliver the Councell's letter to his Maj: And gave an short accompt off the caus off our beeng sent up. The king said thatt y^r wes strang reports off murders raps robreis & uther abusses comitted by thes forces in the west off Scotland and desyrd to knowe whatt wes the treuth thereoff; therafter his Majestie seemed to be weell satisfied with the full & satisfactorie ansuer which my lord Murray gave him. His majestie begun to speak concerning the bond a little after the Duke off Monmouth had entered the roome. The Duke said thatt many affirmd itt to be against law thatt a master should be compeld to bind for his tennents and itt is thought hard y^t when an master hes many off thes sort in his grounds to putt them outt, for then in thatt caice he loses his rentes as also itt is said thatt the laborrows does not meett or quadratt w^t y^t effair, & desyred to knou whatt the penaltis wer. We did affirme that ther wer nothing in the band against law and y^t it oblidg the takers off itt to keep the law; we insisted upon the alternativs itt contained which wer easie and within the master's pouer, and y^t the penaltie containd in the band was no uther then wes putt on by the act off partiatt, and y^t itt was nott offered till authority wes affronted, and y^t y^r wes an necessitie for doing something for the countreis peac, and y^t upon such occasion formerlie y^r wes a bond off a far mor sever natur presd by thes who nou complaines, and y^t his Maj's. councell had reasone to suspect the designs & principalls off thes who refuse. And y^t everie privatt subject might force such from whom they fear any harme to secur them by

lawborrowes, and y^t itt hath been the practise off the councill to oblige such whos peacablnes they suspected for themselvs, wyffs, bairns, tennentts, & servants, under such penalteis as they sould find suitable and the councill having just grund to be suspitious off thes who had refused had good grund in law to cause chairg them w^t lawborrowes, which is the legall surtie wher ther is presumption off hazard, and y^t ther wes generall proclamations off peac & lawborrowes as appears by actts off partiatt and to mak appear the hazard off the peec we took occasion to represent the insolenceis comitted by the fanaticks as the feild conventicles, invading ministers, & ther pulpitts, resetting & embracing declared traitors, vagrant preachers; we mentioned the orthodox ministers flying from their houses, the hazard off y^r rysing in armes, and all things els: we mentiond the procedur off the councill by sending some off ther number to and conveening the heritors for taking course w^t ther insolenceis & their ansueir y^t itt was abov their reach & the letters wes sent from y^t cuntrie declaring y^t all was lost w^t out present remedie, and y^t the people y^r had forgott y^r wer any power above them, the building off the meetings housses etc. And in furdur ansuer to the Duk off Monmouth itt was said thatt ther land sould rather ly waist then thatt itt sould be a nurserie for rebels; bott iff the masters wold doe ther deutie itt wer easie to have deutifull tennentts, for the tennentts depends upon the master. The King said thatt ther wes much reason for the bond for securing the peace and thatt the alternatives wer easie for the masters, and nothing hard in itt, and the bond beeng offered & refused itt wes just thatt law off lawborrowes sould be mad use off he said we had in Scotland the best laws off any people in the world, amongst uther things he spok upon thatt subject he mentioned the hundreds off within^a who had payed many thousand pounds for crymes comitted wherein they had no hand and that tounes wer lyable for the roberies comit in them.

His ma: inquiryd whatt might be said for free quarter; we told

^a *Seil. Twitnam.* See p. 100.

that his majestie by the fundamentall laws off the kingdome had the undoubted right & pouer to raise all betuixt 60 & 16 when ever he had vse for them & which prerogative it fullie acknoledgd & renewed in the 3 session off his first parliatt (and the militia is granted ther butt in furder acknowledgment) and thatt itt was nott to be supposed such armeis could be furnisht w^t money to pay the quarters, sinc in scotland y^t wer no cashe nor found for maintaining off armeis, And our kings hes still been in use to quarter their forces without present payment, especiallie when they ar amongst such as hes stated themselvs in disobedienc & rebellione. His majestie was pleasd to say I sall mak itt shorter to you ; iff such a shyr which he namd wer in rebellion & iff I sould march into that shyr w^t my forces, most I pay for the quarter to thos rebells w^h I tak amongst them ? no reason & I am sure my father never did itt. We told likwys thatt free quarter was never intended bott in the caise off actuall rebellion bott y^t the councell resolution wes to pay the quarter outt off the fynes. The duk off monmouth asked iff the quarter was compted & fitted w^t the landlords and people utherwyse hou was itt intended to be payd itt wes ansuered y^t wes easie to be done for the number off sodgers upon everie paroshe and hou many days they did ly upon the paroshe wes known & so might easilie be calculat. The Duk off York cam in to the king he told y^t the marques of Argoll had been w^t him and wes earnest to be admitted to his majestie and thatt the marques said to him y^t he thought a license from the councell had nott been necessar sinc he had attended y^t servic so long as was needfull & that his troops or companies wes dismysd. The king said, " No, brother, I will maintain my autoritie, I say I will maintain my autoritie," and after thatt speaking for what the marques cam up the king said he heard for whatt he cam up bott would nott speak itt for his sake; nay itt was not worth & he would nott speak itt for his sake. Then the Duk off York said he had given Atholl his advyce neither to meddle w^t y^o Duk off hamiltone nor witt the members off the hous off co^mons. After this many things wer

spok as first concerning the former bond which wes imposed by thos who nou complaines; his maj: said y^t wes no wonder, for when the Duk off hamiltone wes pleading for & maintaining the appealls his majestie did shew him an letter subseryved by himself when itt wes asserted y^t by the lawes off Scotland y^r could be no appeal from the lords off session beeng y^t they had the final determinañ off all civill causes withoutt appellation and y^t this was in a cause off an Englishman's recoñded by his majestie to the parliatt off scotland. Then the proclamañ was spok off, the contempt off autoriti & the bad preparativie iff the counsell might be compland on heer without applicañ mad to themselvs & thatt thes noble men wer comd up wer shireffs steuart off steuartres—bailyes off regaliteis & concerning all other things in everie thing his majestie spok mor for our behoofe than we could doe ourselvs. His maj: kept us the spac of tuo houres and when his maj: wes going away the Duk again spok about Atholl and perth.^a The king said he wold heer them himsell bott he wold appont some to heer them, he said he kneu the humour & way off Scotland better then any off them did. That night we did visit the Treasurer who was veri civil to the Erle of Murray.

Upon Sunday we kisd the Duk of York's hand & went to the Duk off monmouths who wes abroad.

Upon Monday we wes with my lord chancler off Ingland he wes exterordinar civill to the Erle of Murray he said y^t iff thes lords who wer comd up did deport theiseivs quietlie & honestlie & nott medle w^t the french ambassador nor w^t the members off the hous off commons, the king wold appontt some to heer them, & iff ther wer any thing in y^r affair y^t wold allow it, the king wold possiblie return them to Scotland w^t som recoñdedation to the counsell, both wold never doe any thing nor putt itt in any way to prejudg or weaken the government or autoritie off the counsell; we did lykwyse visit the cheiff justice Nortt. Itt is said heer y^t the king hes appointed some of his cabin counsell to heer all the lords

^a Burnet, i. 419. (See p. 93.)

& others who ar comd up severallie bott especialli to heer Duk hamilton who maks greatt asseverations off his loyaltie. It is said y^s they intend to urge for a parliat as a mean for reconceilling all things and breaking off the fanaticks I knou nott iff intend to mak thatt use of itt.

[Narrative by Alex. E. of Morray, Sir Ja. Foulis of Collinton, and Sir G. Mackenzie of Rosehaugh, of proceedings in London, *in hand* of Foulis.]

LXVII.—THE EARL OF MURRAY TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23138, f. 100.]

Whythall, Apryl 9, 1678.

Sins my last to your Grace, Duck Hamilton, the Earls Roxbourhe, Hadingtonne & Lord Cochrin arryved hear upon sunday afternoon,^a I went emediatly To the Kinge & acquainted him withe it, he said he would not see any of them, bot would appoint some to hear uhat thy had to say. Yisterday I went uithe my Lord Maenard to the Chansler, I found The Marquis of Atholl^b & others had bene misinforminge him uhat thy could, He tould me all thy had said : to uich I replyed & gave him full satisfaction, He said he thought the Kinge would appoint some to hear what thy sayed, bot iff he found them correspondinge uithe the Frenshe Ambassadors or any of the Houss of Commons he uould tæk sever courssis, iff not he thought he uould returne them to the Councill of Scotland & recommend them to be used uithe as mutch lenety as might consist uithe the peace & safety of the Church & Kingdom. At night I took occation to speake uithe the Duck of Momouthe in the Kings new draweing rounge ; most of them applye to him. He tould me the Duck of Hamilton had bene

^a In defiance of a proclamation, dated January 3, forbidding it. For their defence see Burnet, i. 420.

^b See p. 93, *note*.

uithe him, that he complend upon the boand lawborrous & quarteringe. I sayed I thought he had bene satisfied in thes things by the account I had given the Kinge in his presens : bot, sayd he, ther uas a particular order for takinge his suord from him, I ansuered there was no sutch thinge, for beinge Shriffe himself he uas orderd to disarme the uhall shyre & no particular order uas given besyd : Ther was, sayd he, a paerty of the King's guard sent to taek his armes, I tould him that uas as fals as the other, for that paerty was only sent to reseave sutch armes as he delyvered to them belongeinge to the shyre & militia & to caery them to his Majesty's Cassill of Dumbartoun : he sayd he uas to speak uithe him agaen nixt day. Then I tould him I would uaet on him to know uhat he would ad to thes misrepresentations which I would quikly cure him off & so uee paerted. This morninge I intended to speak uithe the Kinge bot he uas gone to Grinnithe befor six acloke. I uent then to St. Jamesis to uaet upon the Duck : he tould me the D. of Monmothe had bene telinge him that D. Hamitone had bene uithe him bot that he had not himself sine him ; he sayd the Kinge would appoint some to hear uhat thy would saye but would not see them & then he uold send for my Lord Collingtounne & me, uith all assured me the Kinge would maentean his authorety & the authorety of his counsell upon any account. It uas on aclok befor the Kinge returned. My Lord Maenerd & I uent emediatly to see him dyne. After diner he uent to the Dutches of Portsmouthe's so that all this day I could not gett ane opportunety to speak to him ; to morrow I will indevor it. As I am urytinge this my Lord Maenrd & Lord Arlingetoune caem to me and after compaeringe nots uee fynd all the paerty hear verry bussie tamperinge uithe & misinforminge the members of the Houss of Commons, all shall be done that possibly can be to undeseave them of thos malicious aspersions forged & spred abroad by them. This day I had a visit from my Lord Ankrum ; he profesis all the kyndnes & service imaginable to yr Grace & tould me how he had ansuered on Mr. Pouell & Clerges to some dis-

coursis thy had in the Hous reflectinge upon the present actions in Scotland, I thanked him heartily for his kyndnes : bot My Lord & Lady Maenird & I ar to advays how far to trust or maek use of him. I confes I have no apprehension bot what may proced from the unkinely humors of the Commons ; it is believd by severals hear the paerty hes bine incurridged by correspondensis that uay to come up. The Marquis Athol says the only uay to cure all thes distempers is to call a scots parlament & in that cace thy would contribut to the ware, bot he is ueall understood. Duck Hamilton says he is only to complaen of injurys done to him self & so says the rest. He hes maed great profesions of his Loyalty & braged how active he uas in the Hills & in the Rebellion 1666, how forduard he uas to suppress it & yet turnd of the Councill & all means assayed to ruien him : bot the best of it is fioue exsept his oune creaturs belive him. Besitch y^r Grace lett all letters & papers that may contribut to clir the disturbans that uas in the west be sent up specially that letter my Lord Ross brought from the meatinge at Irrveing whan S^r Johne Cochran proposed his General indulgens. Adiu.

LXVIII.—THE COUNTESS OF WEMYSS TO THE DUCHESS OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23138, f. 102.]

Wemyss, 10 Apryll [1678].

I have a very earnest disyre to be with your grace and to have the pleasure which I have always found in your Grace compenic, that which now keeps me from reseving that satisfaction is my wonted indisposition of bodie which ordinarily takes me at this tym of the year, and the necessitie of wsing this present season for removing of it. I am very curious to know your grace thoughts of what may be the importance of this strange motion that manie of our grandies are in, I doe represent it to my self as a contrivance wher in I doe not know whither ther be mor of malice and ill

nature, or of follie and precipitance ; ther apears much of ill nature in it, that to act ther hatred and furie they have laid hold on a season wherin his majestie is incumbered with multitude and perplexity of great affairs, which they think to profite by, in bringing his majestie under ane apprehension of the great confusion and disorder that is in scotland and so of a necesitie to grant ther disyre, and that this may appear the mor probable they have sent up, without leave, and contrair to his majesties order, a great number of their partie all of them persons of litle or no experience in the world and of violent and boisterous passions on purpus to mak the greater noyce and clamour, which will mak it the greter that they are all for most part persons of qualitie in this nation, this I doe think is the venome of ther desyn, bot in my poore iudgement it is so foolishlie contrived and managed that it is impossible it can tak any efect, becaws ther is not any thing that I can perseve in all thier contryvence that can give so much as the least shedow or pretext to hyd ther wreth and discontent which so palpablie shews it self throw ther wholl affair (which yet above all things they shuld have kiept hid), that it is open to every eye and will I am confident crush all ther project, these are my present thoghts of this busines, whic cawsis so great matter of talking and discours, bot I am verie houppfull that all this fire will goe out lyk the snuff of a candell, in stench and smok.^a I know your grace hes mor wisdome and cowrage then to be afrayed or trubled of any evill can come from this confusion, for in treuth I think it on of the most onadvised methods they ever yet took to bring ther devyiss to pass. My poor child is now at hir rakning, when she is uieell your grace shall have ane account of it fra hir who shall live and dy,

Dear madam,

Your grace most faithfull
humble servant and cusin,
MARGARET LESLIE.

Dearest madam send this saif to my daughters hand for its a very free leter.

^a As, indeed, on the whole, it did. But see p. 112.

LXIX.—THE EARL OF MURRAY TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23138, f. 104.]

Whythall, Apryl 13, 1678.

Sins my last I have littill to say. The Kinge appointed my Lord collingtoune and me to attend him yister night about fyffe a cloke. About tuo hours before I went to St. Jamesis to uact upon the Duick; he allowed me a conferens of near ane houre & wee wear throw all, he sayd verry kynd things of y^r Grace & that he was very glaed wee wear com hear. I tould him how mutch the Councill & yr grace depended upon His goodness & Justis. He sayed the kinge would maentaen His Authorety and I might be confident he would be as fordvard as possible in it; I fynd the M. Atholl pyles him hard by sume of his relations. He speaks kyndler of him then any of the rest. I uacted till the kinge went to super, the Duick cald me, and sayd the Kinge had been verry bissy & that he desyrd me to uact this night at sex a cloke, which I did. The kinge sat in the cabinet councill till nyne and then the frenshe imbassador uacted on him in his bedchamber and kipt him thre quarters of ane hour from super altho it was all the whyll upon the Table. As sone as he came out the Duick spak to him & cald me, he sayd the kinge had bene full of bussiness this eveninge so he orderd me to attend the kinge in his bedchamber the morrow precisly at four a cloke in the afternoon. For forrange intelligens I leave you to Mr. Forrister's letter, bot you will fynd things goe not smouthe, nor is ther so warme talkinge of the Duick's goeing over now as when I caem to toune. I have layed out uays to praye in our cuntrymen's correspondnsis which I houp will not faell: for the kinge would be pleased to fynd it out. I assur you no paens nor any thinge els shall be spaerd that may any uay

contribut to yr service, it is very laet & the paquit uaets for my letters so Adiu.

I humbly kiss my
Lady Duitches hands.

LXX.—THE EARL OF MORAY OR SIR JAMES FOULIS TO THE
DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23138, f. 106].

Whitehall 15th Aprile, 1678.
Moonday at 11 of the clock
at night.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

Having last night waited on his Maj^{tie} (in obedience to his coñmand), to give him a further account of the state of affaires in Scotland and to answer such questions as his Maj^{tie} thought fit to propose unto us, he was very well pleased with the informations he received from us, But in regarde that by reason of the great appearance ther is of a forreigne warre, his Maj^{tie} thinks fit that all noise may be prevented which at this time may be raised here upon occasion of frequent marching & quarterings of his forces in that kingdome,^a wee are now by his Maj^{tie} coñmanded to send this to acquaint your Grace, It is his Royall pleasure, That you call a meeting of his Privy Councell with all convenient expedition after your receiving this letter, And let them know that as he is very well satisfied with their former procedors in reference to the quieting of the late disorders in the west, so he is desirous to know from them & your Grace, what Troopes (besides those of his standing forces) are now employed in that service? where they are

^a The next letter shows more directly that it was the desire to avoid further complications with the English Parliament that led to these orders. Moray writes, "Many of the members of the H. of C. are blowne up by these peoples fals calumnies that are come up; so as the kinge fears they will be hye upon it, and wishes it past befor they sit."

quartered? and whether that service, for this time, may be at an end within a fortnight, To the end that thereupon he may signify his further pleasure And although his Maj^{tie} is graciously resolved to maintaine his authority in his Privy Councell there, and for that purpose to discountenance & punish all persons whatsoever who either have or shall presume to violat or contemne their orders, Yet for reasons considered by his Maj^{tie} in this juncture, It is his pleasure that if any suñonds be issued out against any of the noblemen or gentlemen who came lately hither from Scotland without the Councell's leav, requiringe them to make their appearance there within threescore of dayes, all procedors upon such suñonds may be stopped^a (or if not issued out already, may be delayed) untill he shall think fitt to give further directions in that affaire; wherein his Maj^{tie} will take the most proper course in this juncture, and is graciously pleased to say he will in due time acquaint his Privy Councell with it; For, as he is very well pleased with all their procedo^{rs} in that matter, so he is resolved to order nothing about it but with their knowledge & advice, which doubtles will still tend the more to his Interest, Seing his pleasure will certainly in all things determine them, whose only designes in all their procedo^{rs} have been to promote his Maj^{ties} service, in secureing the peace, and endeavouring the happines of that his Kingdome. Wee are

May it please your Grace

Your Gr: most humble &

faithfull servants

MORRAY.

JA. FOULIS.

[*N.B.* only signed.]

^a The King's great desire to avoid complaints coming to the House of Commons caused this.

LXXI.—SIR JAMES FOULIS TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23138, f. 114].

Tuesday 18 Aprill 1678.

Yesterdays morning The Erle off murray & I went to Sr James to waitt upon the Duke off york ; his highnes told us that the marques off atholl & E. off perth had petitiond the king in an humble maner and did insinuatt they would be admitted to kiss his Maj: hands whereupon my lord & I went inmediate to whythall with resolution to speak with the king upon y^e effaire, wher we mett w^t the certain intelligenc thatt the king had been att tennis and after he had done with play the Marquess off Atholl & Erle off Perth had been admitted to kisse his Maj: hand in the dressing roome att the tennis court, and was introduced by the Erle off Barth. Inmediate therafter as the king was going through the galrie going to denner we did waitt upon his Maj: he took us in to his old bedchamber, wher the E off Murray did read to him the letter from your Gr. as also y^t off my lord Kingstoune's and took occasion again to remember his maj: hou prejudiciall the admittanc off thes persons who had come up heer in contempt off his authoritie might prove to his effairs in y^t kingdome, The expectaone the disorderlie people had off it, The use they wold mak off itt, the incuradgment itt wold be to them & the discouradgment itt wold give his servants ; y^t and much mor to thatt purpose. His majestie said thatt the Marques off Atholl, and E. of perth had petitiond him in an most humble maner; thai acknouledgd y^r fault & had begd pardone & had ingadged nott to meddle in any publict bussines and he wes sure they would not. My lord murray insisted upon the preparativ, and the bad consequences might follow thereupon iff uthers off them sould be admitted. The king said y^r wes no uthers admitted, my lord then desyred to knou iff his maj: would allow us to wrett to the Councell, that itt is his maj: resolution to countinanc nor admitt no uthers off thes lords & gentelmen his majesties ansuer

wes doubt nott or fear nott I warrand you, I warrand you. His maj: again told us thatt he had given order for tuo troops off horse and an troop off dragones to march towards the borders to tak course w^t thess rogs in thoss partts. his maj: took an paper outt off his pockett which he did read to us; itt seemed to bear something off correspondenc betuixt the fanaticks off both kingdomes containing certain methods & conclusions tending to the subversion off all & reducing all to the old way off confusion and said he hes his aun way off intellegenc amongst them. Therafter speaking anent the disorderli people in Scotland & thes who connives w^t them his maj: said, Y^t they knew veri weell thatt they intended & indeavord nothing mor then the subversion off the government off the church which is nou established by the Laws off y^e kingdome and the alteration off the constitution off the parliatt, especiallie off the Articles, and so he left us & went to dinner.

As we cam yesternight from court we mett the Duk off Monmouth in the gallerie; he told my lord Murray thatt he hes gott the papers from the lords and vthers which he wes going to shew to the king. He said ther wes four or fyve off thess papers; we heer thes papers wes nott red yesternight, only the king brok up on off them w^{ch} wes Sr John Cochran paper or complaint, & which is said wes a verie long on; we still have desyr & still will y^t thos papers or complaints may be subscriyvd by the persons who gives them in ^a & may be sent down to the councell. The King still & ever says as much as can be desyrd, yea as our hearts can wish, yett we was much troubled att the admitanc off thes 2 lords; my lord Kincairn will be an busie agent for thir folks & knous off thes heer who will assist him, bott our hoop is in god & the king.

^a So that their authors may be open to prosecution for leasing making.

LXXII.—THE EARL OF MURRAY TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23138, f. 116.]

Whythal, Apryle: 20: 1678.

Your Grace's of the 13 I reseaved yisterday about alevn acloke uithe the acte of the West Kirk^a inclosed, & thre of the printed narratives from M^r Forrester wharof on for His Majesty & another for the Diwke; I went emediatly to uaet on the King, he was then at the Cabinit Councill; as sone as He caem up he went to diner & commanded me to uaet till he had dyned, & then went uithe him to his bedchamber uhar I presented the narrative^b to him: & the infamous acte which he was impatient to reed, & tould me he ueall rememberd it, & that Kare which subseryves it as Clerk. I tould him your Grace uould not put it in print uithout his Majestys order, he sayed he uould reed them bothe & tell me his mynd ther-after. I uated on agaen at super to know iff he had red them, bot the Diwke who supt not bot went to his closit cald me uithe him and tould me that altho he was for the King's alloweing the Marquis of Athole to kis his hand upon his humble acknowledg-ment in his petition, & that he had been hitherto still loyall, yit he was as firm as my self aganst admitinge any of the rest & sayd he was triuely y^r freind, that he knew ther uear members in the Hous of Commons that would indevor to raes a storine aganst you, bot the Kinge uould stand bye you & his oune authorety, & he was shure so uould he. Ther was mor discours bot this was the substans of it.

This day till diner the Kinge was at the admiralety: the Marqus of Athol & E: pearthe (uho ar never assunder) stood by till the Kinge had dyned; as he rose from his chear the Marq: whisperd to him a uord or mo: I resolved I uould staye it out. The Kinge

^a The first manifesto of the remonstrators, in 1648. See Wodrow, i. 47, 48.

^b See for this Wodrow, ii. 442.

uent in to the quin's Bedchamber & talked uithe the quin above halfe ane houre. Uhen the Marq: saw I was not lyk to goe, he & the Erle slipt auaye: I uent to the Kinge & axt him iff he had red the narrative, he sayed he had & uas verrey ueall pleased uithe it, & commanded me to caus reprint it uithe the Infamous Acte of the uest Kirk in it: I did then by my Lord & lady maenird's advice show y^r letter to him, uich he uas very uell sactfied uithe. He sayd every thinge past ueall, tho never so severe uhen thy uear actors themselves: for sayd he it is just lyke the appels uhen I recomended ane Inglishe gentilman's cace then ther could be no appele, bot the Earle of Callinders^a uas quyt another thinge. He tould me the Diuke of Monmothe had sayd to him that D. Hamilton had desyrd him to offir to give the Kinge all his Horsis & Maers & Brede, for thy ather had or uould taeke them from him. The Kinge lauchinge bid me wryt to y^r Grace. This afternone I sent for M^r Forrister & sent him about the reprintinge of the narrative, wharof he will give you ane account himself & of all other news uich I need not repeat: I most say I am fully persuaded the Kinge is as firme to you & his Councill as you could uishe: & the Diuke is not lunge short in his professions to me; bot for the D. of Momomout—I apprehend the Lord hes not bene what he ought iff he mynded graetitud or obligation. I am my Lady Dutches most humble seruant.

ADIW.

LXXIII.—THE EARL OF MURRAY TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23138, f. 118.]

Whythale, Apryl 23, 1678.

Last night about nyne aclok the express returned: this morninge I intended to uact on the kinge bot he uas gone be fyffe acloke to

^a He refused the bond lately demanded.

Hampton Court: & in his returne dynd with the Dutches of portsmouth at Mr. Brunkarts,^a it was near 8 aelok before he caem to whythall: as sone as he was shifted my Lord Manerd caerid the Bushop of Glasgow to kiss his hand; he was verry civill to him & inqyrd for y^r Grace & expressed mutch kyndes to you, wharof the Bishop uill him self give you a more ample account. The Kinge was verry slupye & so appointed the Bishop to attend to-morrow morninge. My Lord Collingtoune & I uill also uaet on him at that tyme.

Yisterday morninge I was uithe the Diwke at St. James's, he was verry civil as he usis to be, & tould me that as the King was resolved to hear thes Lords conplaents to vndecat his oune Authority & justice, so he uould firmly adhear to his councill & you: as I retirnd my lord maenird tould me the Kinge appointed me to uaet on him afterdiner which my Lord collingtoun & I did. He tould us he uould hear the pretended conplaents of thes Lords, bot it should be in a Scots Councill;^b and in order to that tould us he had draune a not for his memory whiche conteand the folloueing artikils: 1. that he uould call up a number of the Scots Councill not under fyffe uithe the Advocat & sutch other Laweyors or juges as thy thought fitt. 2. that in the mean tyme any furder procedings might be stopt aganst them during ther absens hear. 3. that the councill allow any Councill or Layers thy desyr to repaer hither: you may judge how mutch uee uear confounded uithe thes proposals, uee tould him how destructive this uay of procedinge would be to his Awthorety, & uhat contempt it would put upon his Council, how insolent the paerty would be upon sutch incurridgments, uhat confusion it uould occatione in all paerts of Scotland infested uithe Conventikils, & that his Councill needed louk for no obediens therafter: he was stumbled at uhat was sayd, & tould us this was the only proper expedient he could fall upon to quyet the humors of the Hous of Commons & all the poople who uear abused by the fals informations uear spread amongst them: that he uould

^a Bronncker.

^b On which he could depend.

not sic on of ther faceis & ment it should prove to ther great disadvantage & punishment should thy faell which he questiond not thy would doe. At last he ordered us to consider of it and tell our thoughts of it to him. This afternoone I went uithe the Archbishop of Glasgow to the Treasurer: after I had given ane account of the Council's letter to us by the express we fell upon what the Kinge had proposed, we tould him how strange it was that the bold & impudent calunnies of these persons should prevaell uithe the Kinge not only to hear them in ane unheard of way, to state his owne authorety & counsell as paertys to such calunnies, besyd that ther was never any yit any complent given in urytinge & subscriyfed, which thy ought to doe iff thy compland; he sayd the Kinge did it only to prevent the Hye Humors of the parliament; that when any thing should be violently moved in the Hous his servants might tell them how thy had no conserne uithe the affaers of Scotland & that His Majesty had put that matter alredy in a Method of hearinge these pretended compleants in a proper uaye, & so vindicat his owne Authorety & quyet ther passionat humors which weare sueld to a great hyethe: he also tould us how really displeasid the Kinge was uithe ther practisis not only in Scotland bot disquyeting the peac of England, which he would not easily forgett. He assured us he was as firm to you as you could wishe & promised to speak uithe the Kinge the morrow morninge befor we caem to him, that he would tell him in justis thy should subscriyffe uithe ther hands what thy would say that it might be sent to the counsell before the Kinge should resolve on any thinge: I have much to say had I tyme, & in what I have urytin was forced to abridge it. Yisterday I dyned withe my lord Canterberry & gave him a full account of all uithe a copy of the narrative, he seemed to be much conserned & expresed a great deall of zeal to serve you & the counsell's interest; so did all the Bishops that weare present, the good Bishops of London Elie & salsberry. I most end. ADIW.

I am my Lady

Dutches humble servant.

LXXIV.—THE EARL OF MURRAY TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23242, f. 1.]

Whythale: Apryle: 25: 1678.

Yisterday morninge I uaeted on the Kinge (the Dwke & D^k of Monmonthe being present) and gave him a full account of the Council's letter directed to my Lord Collingtoune & me in ansuer to that uee wrote by his Majestys command: The Kinge was verry ueall pleased uithe it: the D: Monmouthe inquiryd iff that Militia Regement that was now uithe his Majestys Guards pyed for ther quarters so longe as the aduarse thy brought from ther shyre uithe them lasted. The Kinge sayed he kniw the poople of Scotland ueal, mutch better then ather of them, & iff the noblemen & gentlemen did ther dioutye (the Commons of Scotland ar so submiss & obedient to them) ther had bene no use of Forcis: uharupon I tould them how the Vest Cuntry poople cryed out to our offerers that it was ther Masters had brought this troble upon them, for had thy allowed tho not commanded thy would have bene obedient to the laws: says the Kinge to D: Mon: & had the Noblemen in fyffe done ther diouty ther had bene no conventikils or disturbans ther: the diwk asked uhat noblemen uear ther; sayd the Kinge my lord Chansler & many others & so uent auay to the Commyty of forrange affaers: This morninge the ArchBishop of Glasgow uaeted on his Majesty: he uill himself give you ane account of uhat past which I need not repeat A littill after he caem out I uent to the Kinge & tould him my Lord Collingtoune & I had bene consideringe the proposals conteand in that paper his Majesty had giuen us; that the dreadfull consequensis & effects sutch a uay of procedinge would have upon the disafected paerty bothe hear & in Scotland was appaerent to us for it would not only bringe his prerogative in question, distroye the authorety of his priuie Councill, & turne many of the Kingdome louse & insolent, iff not to the degree of opne Rebellion, bot would also exterordinarily discourridge his Loyall ministers &

fathefull servants uho had & uould ventur ther lyeffs & fortunes in his Majestys service: so leveinge the consideration of uhat the event might be to himself, I proposd that he uould be graciously pleased to continow that matter untill his Advocats comeinge (uho uas upon the Code) and then uee uould jointly represent our thoughts of the uohll bussines to his Majesty. His anssuer uas that uithe all his heart he uas contented to doe so. After I caem from the Kinge Mr. Secretary Williamsons caem to me in the draweing Rounge & tould me had bene last night to sie me. After the complement past he fell upon our seots procedings. uee had near half ane hoor's discours & as faer & smouthely as he could he uas urgeinge for the paerty's interest: he sayd the question uasu hither the boand, law-borroes & quarteringe, uas legally done or no; I anssuerd him as ueall as I could till he sayd he kniw not the Scots Law, & about this tyme good Sir Johne Ernely caem to us uho uas as fordvard to netill M^r Secretary faerly as I have sene any, he is a fathefull & fordvard freind of your Grace's. The King says so ueall upon all occations & expressis so kynd things of y^r Grace that I am confident he is verry firme to you, bot he is severall uays pinshed & uhat the parlament uill doe now is the question. The Earle of pearthe & Marqis Atholl ucar to sic the Artchbishop of glasgow useinge all the arguments thy could bot specialy the Earle pearthe to diswad him from medlinge, & took abundans of Liberty to speak of y^r Grace. I trust God & men uill reward him as the caus requyrs. Sins urytinge the former paert of my letter it beinge about alevin aclok at night my Lord Treasurer sent to desyr to speak uithe me. He says the Diwke of Monmothe this eveninge hes bine compleaninge to the Kinge that D. Hamilton says his uohll estat is undone uithe free quarter: That his uohll horsis mears & Bread in his park is takin auay, & not a hors left to caery his Dutches any uhare. The Kinge took no notis of it bot ane hoor or tuo therafter he spok to the Treasurer & tould him it uas impossible & uould not belive it. He ordered the Treasurer to speak to me that I might uryt to y^r Grace by this post that by the first opportunity after reseat of this

your Grace may lett me know uhat truthe is in it, for the King says iff it be otherua. & that he have any thinge to show for it, he uill proclame them lyers. He is also verry desyrus you give ane account that ther is no quarteringe bot uhat is pyed for, & that ther be no Forcis after this week bot sutch as doe pye for ther quarters, & I am orderd to say so to you, it is not uithe his lykinge that this is bot he is clamord upon & pinshed by the talk of the Commons' Resolutions. I fynd he desyrs that non of the D. Hamilton's Horsis be seased, altho he says himself he hathe no kyndnes for him: The Treasurer is still mor & more firme to you. He tould me the M. Athole talked to him this afternoone at the same raet the diuck of Hamiltone did: He also told me he had moued to the Kinge that sins he heard the Earle Kincarden uas comeinge up and that he uas not of the Councill in Scotland that His Majesty uould discharge him off the Inglish Councill. The Diuk demurs at it bot he put it home and told the Kinge in the Diwks presence how unfitt it uas, so it is concluded to be done & had bene done yisterday bot that it escaped his memory bot he uill rember it the first Councill meatinge. Adiw.

The Treasurer also told me he uas certinly Informed The Hous of Commons intended to fall on the scots bussines the first thing.

LXXV.—THE EARL OF MURRAY TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23242, f. 5.]

Whythall, Apryl: 27: 1678.

This morninge I uaeted on the Kinge & stayed bye him all the whyll he uas dressinge, I gave him uan of the reprinted dubils of the narrative; he louked it over & red the Acte of the west Kirke, which he sayd uas verry ueall ther: he still expressis his firmnes to his Authorety & Councill, & says uhat he does is to

saetisfie the Humors of the Hous of Commons,* bot your Grace may consider how far that will operat uithe them, & it hes bene oftin told him that another uay uould have bene mutch better for his service, bot uee most be patient, & I am persuaded God uill bringe good out of all at last. I uent next to the Diwk of Yorke & gave him another coppye, & then to the Diuke of Monmouthe: He fell emediatly upon the proclamation aganst kepinge horsis above the vaeliw, & said it uould destroye the cuntry & cost it uacst, & that ther uill hundreds of poor people com up & petition the Kinge about it. I tould him I uas sorry that sutch as misrepresented all the actions of his Majestys Privie Councill praevaeld so mutch upon him, I tould uhat uas the use thy mayd of ther horsis in the 1648 at Machlinmoore & in the 49: & 1666: that they had as bad principals & purposis now as ever, & iff by the vigilant caer of the Councill it had not been prevented, Scotland uould have found it by dear bought experiens: that Horsis of the vaeliw allowed near as proper for ther work as any: & from the 1650 year of God to 1658 thy had no other & yit found no loss of ther laboringe by it, & that it uas only the peace of the Kingdome uas aemed at in it uich thos who uould persuad him to misunderstand it uear indevoringe to distroy. He desyrd another sight of his Shriffe deput's representation, which I gave him; and so paerted: My Lord Treasurer told me the Diwk of Hamiltone uas tuted uithe the proclamations printed in the narratue, bot that he would put it of by sayeing that he uas never of that opinion, only sins it uas past by the Major paert in Councill he uas forsed to subscrieff it uithe the rest. I conuinsed the Treasurer how redicolus this excuss uas, yit it uill pas current amongst his favorers.

This day my Lord Glasgow, Collington & I dynded at fullum uithe the good Bishop of Londone. He uas verry free in his opinion, advysed that the Arch: B Canterbery might be spokin to and he uould bringe together all the Bishops about London, & then thy could advayse uithe us uhat uays thy should fall upon to be

* Charles has given leave for the malcontents to come to London.

most usefull to us: the Bishop promised to give you a full account hearof, so I uill say no furder to it.^a I longe mutch for the advocats comm. bot I doubt it uill not be befor Monday, so I shall ade no more bot bid y^r Grace Adiw.

LXXVI.—THE EARL OF MURRAY TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23242, f. 10.]

Whythall: Apryle: 30: 1678.

About eight acloke last night my Lord Advocat caem ; after a litill conferens wee went to my Lord Maenard's & from thens to attend the Kinge; the Dutch envoyo uas uithe him & stayed till near ten. As his Majesty caem forthe the Advocat kissed his hand & delyvered your letter: He asked him how longe it was sins he caem from Scotland, & how your Grace uas, & then went to supper. After he had done uee went along uithe him to the Dutches of Porthmouthes, bot beinge so laett could not gett opportunity of spekinge uithe him. This morninge uee went to St. Jamesis to uaet on the Diuke; I tould him how the Advocat confirmed D. Hamilton's alledgeings, that all the horsis & bread of his park uas takin auay, to be a lye, at uich he held up his hands, bot, I aded, iff it had bene done, it uas no more then aught to have bene unless by petitioning the Councill he had obteand a lycens, bot that it seimed he louked upon that as beloe him. I uas also uithe him at my Lord Treasurer's: he spoke uithe him this day at the Houss & dyned ther, wharof he uill give you account himself & uhat past betuixt him & the Diwke of Monmouthe, uho he says hes sayd fyne things to him: bot uhen he alreddy acknoulidged before the Kinge that I had fully convinced him, And yit hes ouned the

^a In his letter, Alexander Burnet says that Sheldon "seemed very apprehensive of the danger to which they may be exposed if our adversaries be not checkt & curb'd," and two days later he finds it "no difficult work to persuade them *scilicet* the English bishops to onne and affect our interest."

paerty sins to so hye a degree. I most crave pardon to doubt untill I sie him acte better things: About tuo hours ago uee uear agaen indeuoring to spek to the Kinge, bot he is so takein up uithe the Houss of Commons worke that uee could not press it. Tomorrow the Housis is not to sit which uill be a fitter tyme, yisterday the Hous voted that untill his Majesty secured them in the matter of Religion against popry thy uould give no monny & this day thy cald for the last Treaty past betuixt his Majesty and the Staets of Holland which after redinge Birtch moued to have it tranlaeted in Inglishe becaus it uas not understod by al the members, which uas accordingly orderd to be done, & then a commitye uas apointed for consideringe of it & to report. Iff the jurnals & chanlers speetch can possibly be got this night, thy uill be sent to yow. I uryt bot a tutch of News becaus Mr. Forrester does it at large. Last night the E. Kincarden kised the Kinges hand some hours befor the advocat caem. S^r Gorge Lokart & S^r Johne Cunningame have not yit appired publictly any whar, nor the M. Atholl this week past; some say he is takinge phisike. I reseaved my Lord Hattoun's of the 23 of Apryll, uithe the last post. I have given ane account of uhat uas material in it: this morninge the ArtchBishop uas uithe my Lord Cantirberry & severall other Bishops at Westminster who ar verry fordward & uill quikly conclud upon a uaye of adressinge to the Kinge on behalf of his authorety & the churches conserne in Scotland: the narrative hes really done mutch good; many ar fully sactisfied by it, & even implacable enemies uho uill not be conuinsed, yit ther humor is so far blunted that thy ar ashamed to talke at the ract thy used to doe. Ther is another letter come from Amsterdam to a freind in England which is seasonable, your grace will reseve it by this paiquit. I fynd all your friends excedinge earnest for your up comeinge. This day my Lady Maenard & I uear talkinge of it: uee have resolved to be througe all aithe the Kinge befor any thinge be moved in it and to sie what the parlament is lyk to doe, uich probably uill be discovered this weeke, by the nixt post I houpe to give your Grace a more ample account.

Adiw.

LXXVII.—THE EARL OF MURRAY TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23242, f. 12.]

Whythall, May 2, 1678.

Yours of the 25 of Apryle I reseaved, the ArchBp of Glasgow advocat Collingtoun & I rede it and all this night I have attended to show it the Kinge & yit could not. This afternoone I was uithe the Treasurer, who is mutch your Grace's Freind. He saythe he hes bine still of oppinion you showld com up, which he took my Lord Maenird to witnes of, & this night he hes spokin uithe the Kinge of it who is uillinge & desyrous of it: the only scruple he hes is the Houss of commons, bot he says that uill be over befor you can come: you shall have a full account of this by the nixt post. The Kinge hes also this night commanded the Treasurer to mynd him tomorrow & he uill discharge the E. Kincarden from the Inglishe Council.^a I this night acquainted the Diwke of that letter sent hear by Lord James Dugles; he sayed he would not be the better of sutch Trikes, it is sayd he aemed to doe prejudice to the Diwke Lawderdell, bot you should not uant a freind of him to stand by you; he sayed he was convinced all the party's worke was lyk our Scothe proverbe, "Mekill dine & Littill dirdume." Thes verry words; nor can not be sayd nor is expressed bothe by the Kinge & him every day & to all of us; thy ar still for some of the Council's comeinge up, bot the Advocat uill wryt fully of this, so I need not repeat I am verry confident near your Grace ons hear all would goe verry ueall. I uill tak liberty to tell youe when the Kinge hes resolved conserninge y^r comeinge that I would have some more then ordinary to attend you & then thy will maek bot a small

^a See Dictionary of National Biography, Art. *Alexander Bruce*.

figure for all ther vaenety: it is now past midnigt & to-morrow aerly I most uaet on the Kinge & by this post I have littill furder to saye so I uill bid yr Grace Adiw.

I am my Lady Dutchess Humble Servant. The sad news of the Diwke of Somersyds murder & the particulars of it you uill have from M^r. Forrester.

LXXVIII.—THE EARL OF MURRAY TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23242, f. 16.]

Whythall, May 4: 1678.

About fyffe aelok I uas att St. Jamesis uithe the Diwke uhar he promised uhat afteruards he performed: Ther uas the Earle of Kincarden uaetinge in the uter roun (uho uas serapt out of the Councill hear last night): as I came throw the parke I met the Diwke of Momouthe & uith him the Erle of Eglingtoun Lord Cochran & severall others of the paerty. After I saluted him he came to me & asked iff I had sene the Kinge: I tould him I had, did he not appoint you, sayd he, to uaet on him at seucan aeloke? I ansuerd he did: & so paerted: I am confident he did it in a braeueinge uay for this morninge he uas uithe the Kinge & proposed that the Kinge uould presently allowe the paerty a hearinge in his oune presens: uharby thy might be admited to kiss hand bot he found himself mutch disapointed of his desinge & uas sharply takin up bothe by the Kinge & Diwke in our sight for bringeing sutch proposals from them, in so mutch that he kniw not how or uhat to say to bringe himself off. God bless the Kinge he is firme & stedfast to his authorety & councill which he hes proued this night by many expresons & so did the diwke. Prius Robert uas present & any thinge he

sayd was also to our advantadge. after wee left the Kinge the Diwk of Monmouth cald for the Advocat & tould him thy sayed ther was great hazart in subscriyng ther papers which he belived thy would not doe & asked him uhat the import of it might be. He maeks visits to D. Hamilton & walks uithe him in the Parke uhen its almost darke: I aquented bothe the Kinge & the Diwke uithe a letter of Lord James Douglassis was sent hear complacninge that he could gett no men in Scotland & that y^r Grace would not allow any of the standing forcis or militia to tak on uithe him & insinuatinge as mutch as you uear not so forvard for this war as uhen they caem for assistans to the Frenshe, the Kinge sayd uithe anc oathe had you done other uays you had injured his interest uhen Scotland was in sutch disorder, & he would not be the better of sutch triks, bot he concluded it was not of his oune contryveinge. The Diwk was of the same mynd, this day the Archbishope was uithe severall of the Bishops hear, thy ar all of one mynd, wee doubted the Bishop of Durrum most, bot he now expressis as mutch forvardnes as any & all of them uill jone in any maner thy shall be desyrd to address to the Kinge or otheruays to serve y^r Grace & the Councils interest.

Adiw.

LXXIX.—THE EARL OF MURRAY TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23242, f. 18.]

Whythall, May 7, 1678.

Yours of the last of Apryle I reseaved yisterday about 3: in the afternoon the post was som hoors longer of comeinge then ordinar, occasioned as I suppose by the great raens last weeke. As sone as I could gett my Lord Glasgow Advocat, & Collingtoune together

(which was about seven o'clock) I communicated both your Grace & the committee's letter to them: after we had read both over & over we resolved to wait upon the King this morning, judging it the best time to get him alone. We came to the draughting room before eight o'clock, he allowed me to come in as soon as he was ready, I told him the rest near without & we desired to speak to him together. He immediately called them & took us to the closet; I then represented to him the disorders that were daily increasing in Scotland chiefly occasioned by the stay of the mutinous Lords here, & the hopes they boast off which inflames the fanatics to so great a height of insolence: we first read the Committee's letter to his Majesty & then the account of that Conventicle held by John Welche at Chirnside moor in the Marss. I need say no more of this sin your Grace will have it in a joint letter from us all: your letter was the last we gave him, he read it several times & said he was fully of your opinion, & ordered us to prepare a letter to the Council & a warrant to the Lords of the Treasury both, which you have sent you by this post. They are as well worded as we could, both if there be any thing amiss it is not our fault for we expected a copy of a letter & warrant from your Grace. The King did so cheerfully concur in what you desired & did so kindly express himself now as he has always done, That I make not the least doubt of his firmness to your self in particular & to his authority. The Archbishop of Glasgow told him of a conventicle held in 1666 upon the borders of Perthshire, where there was many Horsemen in Armes so as the Militia company there durst not attack them; he said, "God that was the Chancellor's fault for he ought to look after that," and added that the two troops of Dragoons & troop of Horse he formerly promised should be presently sent to the border & that he would also appoint eight or ninety hundred foot to be in readiness whensoever there should be any need of them to be taken out of the garrisons in the North. These of the party here have not yet given in any subscribed paper of their complaints & when they have done it the King has promised to hear what we have to say before he takes any

resolution upon it, & iff he should call up fyffe of his Councill, he says it is only to deliberat uithe them upon this exigens, & that he hathe no purpose of establishinge any Scots Councill hear, nor shall the lyk be practised agaen, & that the Councill them selfs ar to choies the persons thy uill send: bót for all uee ar not yit out of houps of getinge this alterd. This afternoone the Diwke tould Sr A. F. that the Houss of Commons uear falinge upon the King's ministers & uould be also upon you: he anssuerd Sr I am ould and most quikly goe to the grave, bot iff His Maiesty & you stand not by the Diwke of L. god knows uhat uill be the dolfull consequens that uill follow to y^r selfe./ He replied that by God he uould stand bye you to the last & hes sayd as much to severall of us sins: Mr. Foresters uill wryte the publicte news, & send you the jurnals of parlament. The Commons have voted anc adres aganst you this afternone & severall others of the King's Ministers, bot sins you uill have it all fully from him I uill say no more of it, bot God be thanked you have a gracious master. The party Lords uear this afternoon hyely cryed up in the Houss for noble Patriots, uyse & gentill persons, & I uas tould the D. Hamilton meating my Lord Obrayn desyrd him to mynd ther bussines when it cam in the Houss. I resolve to aske at my Lord Obrayn iff it uas so & iff he aknowledge it I uill tell it the Kinge. Sr George Lokart Sr Johnne Cunningame & ualter pringell hes sit closs thes tuo days drauinge the papers thy are to give in, my Lord Maenird & I uear severall tymys to speak uithe the Treasurer this day bot could not find him. The advocat meet him accedntally, our other letter relacts uhat past betuixt them.

Adiw.

I am my Lady Dutches Humble Servant.

LXXX.—THE EARL OF MURRAY TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23242, f. 22.]

Whythall: May 9.

In the letter urytin by the Advocat & subscribed by us all y^r Grace has ane account of the Commons proceedings yisterday upon the vote They pased the day befor for ane address to be maed aganst you, I shall repeat nothings of uhat is conteand ther. you uill perseave by the tuo votes yisterday thy have voted the address out of doores: you had many good freinds in the Houss & it is observed that all the wyse & consideringe men uear of y^r syde: Good S^r Johne Eruly came to me this morninge and gave me a full account of all that. M^r Damahoy, S^r Johne Talbut, S^r Haery pukerne, M^r prodgers, & many others, appired most forvardly: Haery Savell was not only y^r enemy bot solicited members aganst you. The Kinge was ueall informed of all & that verry night commanded him out of his sight & presens for ever The Kinge hes not at any tyme bene observed in sutch a passion; his countinans becaem paell & he shouke uithe eagernes.^a he hes also discharged S^r William Lawder: This actione hes done mutch good to the Kinge's service, for Savell hes sins absented himself from the Hous & severall others have changed ther tune; evine Meers & Pouell becaiem verry sylent last night. And altho I uill not say bot it may be moved agaen, yit yr freinds doe not apprehend any daenger & its houped the Kinge's bussines uill goe better in tyme comeinge: yisterday I was uithe the Diwke & shoued him the coppye of the Letter the Kinge had sent to his councill of Scotland, uharuithe he was verry ueall saetisfied and did agaen declare his firme resolution in standing by you to the last. This morninge I uaeted one the Kinge in his bed-chamber. As sone as I caem in he begond to lauche & tould me

^a I know of no other instance of Charles allowing himself to lose his ordinary nonchalance. See letter LXXXI. p. 140.

that all was now well but altho it had bene otherwise he would have prevented ther mischief. I told him how evident it was now that our mutinous Lords wear the Chiffe insendiarys & that some of the members had sayd in the House the D. Hamilton, M Atholl, E pearthe, & others wear ther informers, persons above all exception: The Kinge sayd he kniw it & that G Burnit was on of the maen instruments employed by them: I was advysed by all y^r freinds to send this express which will I hope be with you within a few hours after the last post to discurrige the reports sent by it: After dinner I went to the Kinge to the Dutches of portmouthes & told him I inclynd to send ane express to lett you know what had passed; he bid me by all means to doe it, & sayd he had sent to all his servants to attend the House & such as ather did not attend or voted not according to ther duty he would turne out on after another: such is the alteration this has occasioned, that severall who inquired of nothing concerning you before came to me this day & told me how they had stood for y^r interest: M^r Philip Houard of Barksher told me in the Treasurer's this afternoone that he had voted for your interest & desired me to say so to you, so did prodgers: the mischief of our mutenies was such that they did what they could to persuad all persons that the Kinge was willing to part with you, which was as closely carried as they could & had done hurt. My Lord Advocat told me some of them had sayd so to him but he never told me of it till this morning, nor kniw I of it before, els I had acquainted the Kinge of it & I am sure he would soon desired that question. However it is now well understood & ther Lo^{ps} ar drupinge this day, who vaeped the day before. Wee hear just now with the Treasurer who showed us a paper given him by D Hamilton this day & told us he had also given on to the diwke of York & another to the Diwk of Monmothe; ane account of this you have also in our joint letter. If ever your Grace heard of such bold insolent proposals I leave your self to judge: the Treasurer told us also that he sayd to him with ane oathe that he would never returne to Scotland to live in such slavery as they wear under, but

would as live goe to Turkey : my Lord Collingtoun's letter beinge full as to all the debaets in the Hous I shall ade no mor bot bid your Grace Adiw.

Andrew Forster hes also urytin all circumstansis of the uhol mater which easies me of so mutch.

LXXXI.—SIR ANDREW FORRESTER TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[Full account of proceedings regarding Landerdale in the House of Commons.]

[23242, f. 24.]

Whitehall, 9th May, 1678.

Thursday at 11: of the
clock at night.

MAY IT PLEASE YO^r GRACE,

Although I know that you are to have from much better hands an account of those transactions here, w^{ch} occasion the sending of this expresse, and have happened since the parting of the last ordinary on teusdays night, yet I look on it as my duty to impart what I remember, conceiving that when severall Persons write on the same subject some circumstances may be forgotten by one that may be informed by another ; and therefore it is fitt that all who use to give you any trouble of this nature, may write as much now as they can, to your Grace: To the end that you may pick out of all their tres as much as they can possibly say for your information & satisfaction.

Yesterday morneinge was the time appointed by the House of Coñions to fall upon a course for compleating (with all possible expedition) those three laudable addresses that they past the night before, whereof you had a full account by the last Poste ; so after the Speaker took the chaire, they prest violently (I mean our Enemies) that a Com^{ee} might be appointed for preparing the addresses, w^{ch} (as they thought) would be ready against 3 of the

clock in the afternoone, and therefore moved that the House might be adjourned to that time: Whereupon some debate arose, but the first part of the motion (relateing to the Com^{ee}) could not be refused, in regarde it was regularly enough justifiable by the vote that past the night before; but the Speaker did soe prudently manage the other part of the motion (relateinge to the adjournement) that (they having been violent on it) he declared the House to be adjourned till 3, afternoone, before the House had granted the Committee those Powers they ought to have for proceeding in that affaire, and so he came away from the House $\frac{1}{2}$ hour before 12 at noone; yet the members that were most violent in that affaire went all away together, till the meetinge of the House at 3 in the afternoone, and then they moved for those Powers that were wanting in the forenoone, which were granted, and hereupon the Com^{ee} removed (the House in the mean time doeing litle or nothing) till about 6 at night when they reported to the House the Drawght of the Adresse that they had prepared against your Grace (for they did you the honour to begin with yours before the other two that related to all the King's ministers in generall, & the state of Publick affaires), and it was all that they had compleated in that long time; although it is not to be doubted but they were consulting it amongst themselvs from the adjournement till the meeting of the House: After it was read, M^r Dalmahoy desired to know (for it consisted of a Generall Narrative accuseing your Gr: of having given pernicious counsell to the King, dishonorable & destructive to the nation, and therfor beseeching his Maj^{ty} to remove you from his Counsell and presence, &c.): Whether that for w^{ch} you was accused in such generall termes, was any matter relateing to your trust in Scotland, or your services in England? if they meant the first, he sayd that was not lyable to the cognisance much lesse to the censure of the House or any Judicature in this Kingdome, and that his Maj^{ty} who is the only proper judge had already resolved on a course to doe right to all persons that can pretend to be injured by the late proceedings in Scotland: But if they meant any faile-

ings of yours in England, he desired that they might be named, & the proofes that they had against you, and then he would indeavour to satisfy the House of yo^r innocence ; adding, that it was never knowne in any nation that any man should be condemned upon generall termes of accusations (or aspersions rather) without naming the particulares of his crimes, and assigneing him a time to be heard in his own defence ; whereupon the other side urged that the Com^{ee} had brought in their report, and ther was nothing wanting but the House to agree to it ; for w^{ch} purpose they prest earnestly that the question might be putt, whether agree, or not agree ? But then worthy Sir John Ernele in a most elegant speech and after him Sir John Talbott, and afterwards a cloude of your freinds, seconded what was sayd by M^r Dalmahoy ; with soe much of equity, reason, & even the law of England itselfe, that your Enemies began to looke somewhat blank, especially after Sir John Ernele had told them, that if the pretended accusations against you are for actions in the government of Scotland, it was ridiculous for them to concerne themselves with it (being alterius Regni) but on the contrary they ought to applaud what was done lately there, it having been to suppress the insolencies of Conventiclers, whose irregular courses are equally condemned by the law of England as by that of Scotland, and that if they would insist in those enqueries the reports there of goeing into Scotland, would so blow up the opinions & hopes of the Phanaticks there, as they would easiely be persuaded to beleeve that this Parliament sitts for no other purpose than to promote there interests (which would soon produce an open Rebellion) when they have other matters before them of much more concerne to the honor & preservation of this Kingdome, which by their interest no lesse than their duty they were obleidged to consider before any other thing whatsoever, especially a matter so frivolous, founded upon the lies & calumnies of unreasonable unworthy men who durst not owne them publictly: To w^{ch}, M^r Powell answered, that the proofes against you were beyond all exception ; for the reports of the Duke

of Hamilton, the Marques of Athole, the Earle of Pearthe, the Earle of Roxburgh, and the Lord Cochran (Persons of the greatest credite, honour, loyalty, & interest in that Kingdome) were not to be doubted by the House where there were so many worthy Persons that knew them. To this Sir John Ernele replied, that whatever weight the testimony of those noblemen might have with Mr Powell or any other of his persuasion, it had not any at all with him, for that he did offer upon his reputation to justify that as what is given out to be sayd on the behalfe of some of their sufferings in the late transactions in Scotland is most false, so he would prove (if it were fitt there) that the Marques of Athole & the Earle of Pearthe were as deep as any other both in advising & executing the Resolutions of the Privy Councell, they being Privy Councello's and the Marques not only Captain of his Maj^{ties} Horseguard but also was the first that moved in Councell that the Highlanders should be brought into the West, and instead of 1000 that he undertook for, brought with him near 2000.* Hee further insisted that if their pretended accusations against you were for English consernes, it is either the old matter, or some new thing that they intended by that addresse; if the first, they had long agoe received his Maj^{ties} answer, w^{ch} was that neither himselfe nor any of his ministers knew that ever you gave him any bad counsell, and that they might expect the like againe from his Maj^{tye}, which would render this addresse uneffectual; besides, that althogh you had then been really guilty of giving pernicious counsell, the King had since passed a generall Pardon of all offences & misdemeano^{rs} before that time, and therefore desired them to consider if they would arraigne any person for what was done before that time, the act of Oblivion that past soon after his Maj^{ties} happy restauration for the preceding rebellion might not as well be hereafter called in question, the consequences whereof he hoped none in the House had lesse reason than he had to fear, and therefore spoke it more for the sake of others than his own: But if they designed any new matter against you here (for that of Scotland was already well answered)

* The action of Athol and Perth has been noticed in previous letters.

you are a Peer of this Realme, and it is not to be expected that the King (to say nothing of his Priveledge of choosing & continuing his own ministers at his pleasure) will give them any satisfaction without consulting the House of Lords who certainly will not suffer any of their members to be touched without a formall legall Impeachment, otherwise the Comons might usurpe to themselves a Priveledge of picking out one after another of the Lords untill they should dreyne the whole House, and consequently might in some time overturne the whole masse of the Governement. All this was further prest by Sir John & the freinds already mentioned, besides the Earle of Ancram & a very great many freinds more, whose names I doe not remember (although I know some of them very well). But I beleiv my Lord & my Lady Maynard or some other English freinds that write to your Gr: or my Lady Duchesse, will give a more particular account of them. Upon the whole matter, your freinds in the House moved & carried, that the draught of the (then) intended Adresse might be taken paragraphly into consideration, and so it was divided into two paragraphs, viz., the Narrative, & the Request, or Petition parte, The first was soe very well debated on the parte of your freinds, that the party at last had not a word to say of reason, equity or law, yet trusting much to their numbers, they prest the Question to be putt, whether it should be expunged or not? and it was carried in the affirmative by 1 voyce, ther having been 152 for you, and 151 agst you. Then some of your freinds & the Speaker in particular, sayd that the Narrative was gone, and must no more be thought off; wherfor ther was a necessity to consider & rectify the Petitory Parte also, becaus it begunne with a (Therefor) which was nonsense when the premisses of the narrative (upon w^{ch} it depended) were taken away; so they fell hotly againe to their debates, which resulted at last unanimously into a question whether the House should approve of it or not? and it was carried by your freinds in the Negative by 4 voyces, ther having been 161 for you, and 157 against you; for ther came in 15 Members from eatinghouses before the second ques-

tion was putt; whereof ther were 9 for you & but 6 against you, as you may perceive by calculating the number of the second with that of the first question. So that the whole masse of the draught of the Adresse was turn'd out, and the Party look'd extreamly out of countance, who were so confident of their numbers as they thought it was impossible to carry a Vote against them. However they adhered to the vote of the House the night before, appointing the Adresse to be made, and desired that the matter might be recomitted to the same Com^{ee}, To w^{ch} Mr. Speaker answered, that if any bill had been comitted to them, they might after bringing their Report into the House, make such alterations as should be thought fitt upon the debeteing thereof, without the necessity of re-comitting it; but here the case was otherwise, for the original Vote of the House was only in order to cause a Com^{ee} prepare such an Adresse, that the Com^{ee} was accordingly named and empowered, that they had drawn up & brought it into the House, that the House had paragraphly & very fully heard and debated it, that the House upon two severall Questions had totally rejected it, and that therefore the matter was quite fallen, untill the House shall think fitt to move it againe, and to give new powers to the same or a new Com^{ee}. By this time they were obleidged to call for candles; for your freinds were resolved to give the party their bellyfull of it, so ther continued some debate upon motions from the other side, indeavouring to leave their state in a better case than it was then like to be left, and therfor moved that the further consideration of that affaire might be adjourned till their next sitting; but your freinds opposed it, urging that the debates might then be followed out, or the House adjourned without any regarde to, or order in this matter; so ther was a great noise made, of Adjourne, Adjourne, Adjourne; whereupon the Speaker imediately adjourned the House; so that ther can be no further procedo^r in that matter without a new motion in the House for that purpose. Some of your freinds in the House desire you not to look on the matter as quite layd aside, for that they are apprehensive the other side will yet have a

pull at it once more, not so much for you, as that they may by prevailling against you have the lesse difficulty in overturneing all the rest of the King's Ministers here : However they assure me if it shalbe brought in againe, the Party wilbe forced to be particular in their accusations, and to bring in their proofes to informe the House; for that they are now quite beaten from their generall assertions, & from their way of saying what they please, without giving their reasons for it. On the other hand, a true freind told me within these few houres that M^r Speaker told him, he was most confident they would not medle with it any more, having been so much baffed in this already. But wee shalbe able in few dayes to know more than we can now learne of their resolutions; w^{ch} certainly wilbe soon reduced to a more sober & dutifull temper, if his Maj^{tie} wilbe graciously pleased to persist in his happy resolution (occasioned by what passed last teusday) to turne out of his service all that shall dare to oppose his interest, or that of his freinds; and to countenance & cherish all those that will firmly adhere to him & them. God's blessing upon his heart for what he has done already, w^{ch} hath produced the greatest change that ever was seen in the House in so short a time. One of the King's sincero freinds told me this day that if his Maj^{tie} wilbe fixt in the course w^{ch} he declares he will continue in all his life, his freinds in the House will ingage their necks that nothing relateing to his Maj^{ties} service shall goe amisse amongst them: which I pray God his Maj^{tie} may doe, as he seemes at p^rsent most firme in.

Now I shall proceed to tell your Gr: what happened before what I have already mentioned, and beg you may pardon my error of Hysteron-Proteron: for that I believe you wold be desireous to be first informed of the luckie event of yesterday's proceedings in the House; yet I hope you will not think what is following to be unworthy of your knowledge. Henry Saville being the only Person of the Kings imediat Domestick Servants that appeared openly and voted against you last teusday, w^{ch} having been told the King by severalls, and particularly by the Earle of Ancram, who also told

his Maj^{tie} some base reproachfull words that Saville had sayd of you ; the King was mightily displeas'd against him, and to so high a degree, that when he was late that night goeing to bed, and Saville comeing in after his ordinary way, the King upon the first sight of him fell into such a passion, that his face & lipps became as pale (almost) as death, his cheeks & armes trembled, and then he sayd to Saville, You Villayne how dare you have the impudence to come into my presence when you are guilty of such basenes as you have showne this day ? I doe now & from hence forth discharge you from my service, co^manding you never to come any more into my presence nor to any place where I shall happen to be : So that base villayne was im^mediately sent a packing, with a vengeance to him ; for, of all that are or have been about the court, none did soe avowedly as he did indeavour to doe you all possible bad offices : and may all of his Maj^{ties} Dominions that are of that temper soon meet with the like or a worse usage. The King sayd then, that he perceives his lenity abused, and that his goodnes to his servants does not at all prevaile with them to doe their duties and therefor he will now take another course, resolving to try what influence his severity will have upon them ; In order to w^{ch}, he declared that any of his servants who shall dare in any station to oppose his interest, or that of any of his freinds, or will not waite punctually on the particular duties to w^{ch} he is tyed in his service, his Maj^{tie} will im^mediately turne him away as he did Saville. Much about the same time, his Maj^{tie} did highly signify his displeasure against Sir William Lowther for having in all the three votes of tuesday last, divided against the King, the Ministers in generall, and your Grace in particular. The shreud effects whereof he has since tasted, to his losse & shame, for the King did yesterday morneing turne him out of his place in the Customehouse ; which struck soe great a terrour into the hearts of a great many of the House (with what was done to Saville) that there was not halfe of that fury against you yesterday as was the day before ; for even many of the leading men of the other side, such as Meares, Lec, Garraway & several

others minced the matter yesterday very much, some pleading that they had sayd but so & so, the day before; others that they had asserted but soe much & soe much; In short, a good freind assures me that there is scarce any man of reason & honesty in all the House but is for you, and tells me (what I am very apt to believe) that amongst the other hellish machinations that were contrived against you, some instruments were made use of to possesse a great many of the members with the assurance (as they most falsly called it) that the King is most weary of you & of your services and would be glade with all his soule of such an excuse to turne you off, as would be an addresse from the House to his Maj^{tye} for that purpose. But God be thanked the King has in a very solemne effectuall maner now given ample demonstration to the contrary, and I hope will ere long give much more, to the sorrow (yet due punishm^t) of the contrivers of such base, horrid lies. All your freinds that I have spoak with assure me that M^r Dalmahoy in both dayes did speak very much, & to extraordinary good purpose, much to the satisfaction & information of the House, albeit he did not open his mouth to any out of the House to let them know what he had done; when I was with him late on teusdays night, he was so wearied & hoarse that he could scarcely speak a word; and having been as deeply (& with much better successe) ingaged yesterday till 9. at night in the House, and with a great company of the Members till midnight he was so indisposed that he could not come out of his bed till within this hour, w^{ch} is the reason that he writes not (as he intended by this Exprese) to her grace. I am also told that the Earle of Ancram truely acted his part very well, as did Sir John Ernele, Sir John Talbott & a great many more extraordinarily well. The greatest part of the King's servants are truely very kind & respectfull at all times in your concernes, especially M^r Windam & M^r Griffin, Grooms of the Bedchamber, M^r Progers, M^r Rogers, the Gentlemen Ushers, & M^r Cheffins is very civill & kind at all times. When your busines was ready to come yesterday to the question the second time, S^r John Berkenhead went out and brought in 3

members from the Taverne, with himselfe, to vote, for you ; and I am told that Mr Bulstrode (Brother to the Resident at Bruxelles) did to the first & second question bring 6 or 7 from Eating houses that voted for you, although he is not a Member himselfe, but indeed seemes zealously enough disposed for your service. I am told for certaine, that had not the party unexpectedly brought in yo^r busines on tuesday when a great many of the King's servants & freinds were gone out of the House to eat (it having been 6 at night), you had gained the vote ; indeed, too many of them are negligent & carelesse, whilst on the other hand their adversaries are very diligent and crafty ; when the House was last tuesday debateing the concernes of the Ministers of State, my Lord Treas^r servants brought no lesse than 24 of his freinds from Eating-houses, albeit it was not above two houres after the ordinary time of dincing. To prevent the like inconveniencies for the future, the King, the Duke & my Lord Treas^r have have sent or spoke to all their freinds & servants, to be sure that they give constant attendance every day that the House sittes, till it rises againe ; which I hope they will doe. This being a Holyday the Parliam^t did not sitt, and you can not expect any journall of yesterdays proceedings of the House of Co^mons, ther being none given, for I am told ther is litle more noted on their bookes, than their adjournement

I have troubled your Gr: with a tedious tre for w^{ch} I beg your pardon, and for the errors that you may find in it, for I have not time to look after, nor to correct them. If your Grace can pick sense and any satisfactory information out of it, I have all my designe & reward.

I had almost forgot to tell your Gr. that the Scotts Lords already named were mentioned both dayes in the House by the most violent of your enemies there, as the Reporters of those horrid, barbarous things that were sayd of you & the Privy Councill, albeit they insisted (for so was their designe) only against your Grace ; save that I can not learne that the Earle of Roxburgh was mentioned more than once, and it was yesterday. Sir Richard

Graham sayd (amongst many other impertinencies) last teusday in the House, that the practise of bringing in the Highlanders to the West might prove a very dangerous preparative ; for they might in processe of time be brought in (upon some specious pretence) to Northumberland & Cumberland ; which he was concerned to look to ; and the rather, for that they had already done so very great mischeefe & destruction to the Vassalls & Tenants of the Duke of Hamilton, in whose Family he has soe great an interest & concerne, being soe nearly related to it : But indeed I am a great stranger to the reason of his pretensions, unles they be only upon the account of a very remote allyance : But it seemes a man may confidently alleadge any thing in that House. When the Earle of Bathe went yesterday morneing into the King's Bedchamber, at his Maj^{ties} rising, the King asked him where he had been the night before, for that he himselfe was forced to performe his Duty? and when his Lo^p humbly asked wherein? his Maj^{tie} answered, In turneing out Henry Saville out of his service, and then repeated the same certifications to his servants that he mentioned in great passion the night before./ Yesterday at Noone the packet arrived w^{ch} came from Edenburgh on thursday the 2nd instant, wherein was only a very short Ire from your Grace to the Earle of Morray who received it imediatly./

I send your Gr: a litle Book come within these two dayes from the presse, entituled, Tyranny & Popery lording it over the Consciences, Lives, Liberties, & Estates both of King & People, which your Gr: will not think unworthy of your reading at some spaire hour./

For your Grace/

[Written by Andrew Forrester.]

LXXXII.—THE EARL OF MURRAY TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23242, f. 32].

Whythall : May ii: 1678.

Withe the last pacquit I had nothinge from y^r Grace which requyrs ane ansuer, bot here hes bine warme worke in the Houss of Commons : as you uill perseave by the jurnalls sent to you it lowks mutch lyker a Remonstrans then ane address : your freinds in the Houss found they would be at you agaen & so uere rather uilinge to lett it pas in this, then that a particular address apaert should have bine maed. S^r Ritchard Grahem uas the person that did you the favour to be the first mouer of it agaen ; This morninge the Kinge sent a messadge to the Houss desyryng they would give monney for pycinge the Forcis otheruays thy most be disbanded & even in that cace they behoued to be pyed: This some say the Houss interpreted as a discovery of the Kings intention to setill a peace : Thy had longe & uarme debaets upon it till it ended in a vote which past in the negative. I spoke uithe the Diwke uho tould me plainly that the desynge of all this he kniw uas at Himself, bot the Kinge would doe ueall anuffe as I showld know verry sudinly by the Kings ansuer : I asked him iff he had sine that paper of proposals given in by D Hamilton & the rest of the paertye : he sayd he had not & he uas tould thy would give in no paper nor rytinge under ther hands & yit the Treasurer tould us ther uas on of them given to the Diwke as uee tould you in our joint letter by the express: bot hapily it may have bene so ill relished that it hes not bene caeried to the Kinge : which I shall verry sudinly know from himself : he hes bene so mutch takin up & vexed this flow days past that hardly could any opportunity be had of him. This eveninge about fyffe a cloke the Speaker & som of the Houss attended his Majesty in the Banquitinge Hous in the useuall maner and maed ther address : The King's ansuer uas in thes verry words

That ther address was so extravagant that he would give so speedie ane ansuer as it deserved. The Hous of peers have done littill all this weak bot privat bussines uaetinge a returne from the Staets of Holland which was expected last night bot not yit come. I shall conclud uithe teling you that all y^r freinds houpe the address uill be so far from doeing you hurt that the affaers of Scotland may be the better of it Adiw.

I am my Lady Dutches
most Humble Servant.

LXXXIII.—THE EARL OF MURRAY TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23242, f. 36.]

Whythall : May: 14: 1678.

Upon sunday last in the morninge I uaeted on the Kinge & had a full hearinge upon that bould & impudent paper of proposals they had given in to the Treasurer: The Kinge tould me he had not sine it bot I found he had bine informed by the Diwk of Monmouth. Upon the Relatione I gave my Lord Advocat & Collingtoune of what past & how gracious I had found his Majesty upon our uhall affaer, wee resolved to maek a joient address to him. This morninge you have a full account of bothe in the letter subscryfed by us all to which I have littill to ade at this tyme. My Lord Maenard hes this day bene dealinge uithe the Treasurer to concur in our desynge of gettinge our muttiners sent to Scotland & he gives me this night houps of his complyans uithe it: I uill say the Kinge is fordvard in it & iff ther be any stope or delay it is from some of the ministers hear. This day the Kinge tould me agaen he would uryte to y^r Grace to come up to him so sone as you found it convenient: & that he never meand you should com hither in another uay then by his oune command to y^r self, & spake it uithe so mutch affectione

that I am convinced he is the same to you that ever he was. The Marquis Atholl comes littill now to court. He is ill & his phisitian says in a consumption; what kynd of on it is tyme uill discover. The Dutch imbassador tould the Kinge upon setirday that his masters uer in a stract how to deall uithe his Majesty, for the parlament had voted no monny unless thy had satisfaction as to the matter of poprye & then how could he mantean Forcis to joiene uithe them: & then beged leave to say furder that sins the parlament had so bouldly addressed aganst all his ministers thy should begine to dout uhom to applye to him or them: the jest was not uealpleasinge. This night its sayd at court that the Dutch uill not mack peace without the Kinge, bot ther hes bine sutch jugilinge all alonge in that affaer by them that flow credit it: & as flow doubt but thy have closed a peace alreddy.

Adiw.

I have nothinge furder to say to my Lady Dutches by this post, bot that I am her most humble servant.

LXXXIV.—THE EARL OF MURRAY TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23242, f. 38.]

Whythall: 16: May: 1678.

Yours of the 9 of May I reseaved & did communicat it to the Arch Bishop of Glasgow the Advocat & Lord Collingtoun, I houp you shall still have mor satisfaction in the Kings firm resolution to manten his Authorety which to my great joie I fynd dayly increasinge. The letter subseryed by us all uill acquent y^r Grace of what past at the conferens uee had uithe his Majesty yisterday. This morninge I uaeted on him & represented how great a prejudize delay in commanding the returne of our disconted Lords was

to his affairs in Scotland & how mutch ther stay incurridged the paerty ther, who uear becom insolent above Missur, which I houped a spedy dispatch of that letter would quikly cheke. He told me thy would give in no subseryfed paeper & he uas thinkinge of sendinge them all goeing & orderd me that uee should all uact on him tomorrow. I also spoke uithe the Duke & tould him that that altho he had bine for indulginge them a hearinge, iff he did not now discover how groundles all ther clamors uas which thy had so bouldly asserted bot durst not subseryfe when thy uear put to it. He sayd he uould returne me the same anssuer he had done befor in the Scots proverbe, they had maed mikill dine bot had little dirdum: They begine now to hange ther ears. This morninge a gentilman tould me he had bine at the Marquis of Athols uhar he saw the E. Kincarden & dyvers others of them bot all out of humor. The Marqus sayed he uould goe to France & that his phisitians advysed him so to doe. I fynd they ar desynginge to gett a testificat from the Bishops in Scotland of Duk Hamilton's integrety to the establised Government of the Church & that the B. of Edin. is the chiffe person imployed in that affaer. I can not intertean a thought that many of the Bishops uill be betrayed to sutch ane acte, bot I have good ground to belive it is afoot which y^r Grace uill notice & prevent as you think fitt. The ArchBishop of Glasgow hes acquainted you how graciously his Majesty reseaved the Bishops' address to him uich I uill not repeat, bot from all of them that ar hear I have had verry affectionat acknoulidgements of their obligations to y^r Grace which I am confident they uill uitnes in any thinge they can serve you in.

Adiw.

LXXXV.—THE EARL OF MURRAY TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23242, f. 44.]

Whythall: May: 23: 1678.

In my last I told you the Kinge appointed me to uact on him yisterday morninge which I did befor he uent to Hounsloe Heathe: He rede over your letter verry caerfully & sayd he uas very sencible you had newer served him better then upon this occation & bid me tell you he uould be firme to his Authority & to you. That althoc he uould hear 3 or 4 of the paerty Lords as Criminals: yit should they not kis his Hand & it should be found to tend to ther disadvantage. I have as y^r Grace commanded burnt y^r letter & I assure you non liveinge bot the Kinge saw it. It simes the Treasurer uas in a mistake conserninge the Forcis that uear orderd doune, for I inqyred bothe at the Kinge & his R. Hynes conserning it, they told me they uear to goe lye at Berwicke. The D: axed me if I thought it uould not doe as ueall to send the one halfe to Caerlisle, I told him I thought they uould doe as ueall to lye altogether in Northumberland. He questioned iff the quarters uas good, I assurd him it uas; so he hes resolved to send them all ther. This morninge the ArchBishop of Glasgow, L^d Advocat, & Collintone, & I, uacted on the Kinge & proposed the Convention of esteats: a full account uharof you have in our joint letter which I uill not repet; His Majestyes letter to the Councill, the Proclamation, & y^r Graces warrand for beinge Commissioner, ar sent you in this paquet you uill send up a draught of the letter you uould have to the Convention & y^r thoughts for the instructions: now I besitche you sett all the persons you can aworke to louke caerfully to the Elections: * I heartily uishe I uear in the Northe, but sins it can not be I uill by the nixt post uryt letters to freinds which my wyffe uill send auay by ane express. The securinge of the

* He did, and gained a large majority.

Burrous is a maen thinge & I know the Clerk Rocheed^a can be usefull in it. I went to the Treasurer & spoke to him at lenthe & found him verry fordvard to be as friendly as he could, & there-upon yster-night. I caeried the Advocat & L^d Collingtoune to him, & he gave all of us great satisfaction & I houp he uill firmly continow so. Mr Forrester uill send you this day's journall of parliament uithe the King's speetch, your grace uill now consider how to disposs of us, for the 26 of June uill sone come.

Adiw.

LXXXVI. — THE EARL OF MURRAY, SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE,
AND SIR JAMES FOULIS TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23242, f. 50.]

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

This afternoone at four a cloack the Duk of Hamilton, Lord Cochran, Sir John Cochran & Lie^t G. Drumond, with all the Lords of-the party, were [with?] the Duk of Monmouth & from thence these foure only went to Secretary Coventries office, uher the King went to them, & without getting a kisse of his hand they spoke with him two hours; In which thow the King argu^d for his own authority & us most stronglie, telling them y^t ther could nothing be receaved ags^t his Councell except it were sign^d, & since they refused to signe hee lookt upon these stories as spok at randome, & that hee behov^d to beleev in point of law his judges & Councell better then them, and that hee had heard all they now said very often formerly, & was glad they could adde no new thing, & that ther was no appeale from the session to the parl^t, & much lesse could there be in matters of governement from the Councell uho behovd

^a James Rocheid of Inverleith was town clerk of Edinburgh in 1683, most probably also in 1678, when he is designated "Scriba communitatisburgi de Edinburgh," but not "communis clericus," the usual designation of the town clerk. The Rocheids of Inverleith were an Edinburgh family of some consideration. (Kindly communicated to me by T. Dickson, Esq., Registry House, Edinburgh.)

to governe according as matters fell out. They urg^d.at parting to get a kisse of his hand but hee positively refus^d it & came out in a huff, whereupon Perth & Kincardin, hearing as they sat in the utter room with your nephew y^t the King was angric, they slipt away. The King went thereafter to the Park & talked wth your nephew, & again & again said to the Earle of Manchester (to uhom also hee was giving ane account of uhat had past) that hee wold own his authority. At his returne wee waited on him & hee told shortly becaus he was going to supper that hee had heard no new thing but the old stories & desyr^d that wee might have a letter ready for the Councell which hee wold sign mononday morning, which shall be ready against y^t tyme. The Duk told my good Lord Maynard, & Secretary Williamson told the advocat, that the King was wel pleas^d with his Councell & wold own his authority. Ther wer present at y^t conference the King the Duk Monmouth the Tres^r. & Secretary Williamson. Wee hoop upon tuesday to send the letter & immediatly thereafter to follow it.

Wee ar

May it please y^r Grace,

Your Graces most

humbl servants,

MORRAY.

GEO: MACKENZIE.

JA: FOULIS.

25 May [1678].

[N.B.—Written by Mackenzie.]

LXXXVII.—THE EARL OF MURRAY TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23242, f. 52.]

Whythall: May: 28: 1678.

Your Grace is of the 21: I reseaved yisterday: and this morninge I houp you had his Majesty's comands for the Convention which I know will be acceptable to all honest men. The first knowldge

the paerty Lords hear had of it was from the Dwk of Momouthe who kniw nothings of it himself till a day or tuo after it was gone ; they wear all hudgely alaerumd & louked upon it as it proved a bad pre-saedge to the hearinge they wear to have the satirday after, uharof you haue alredy ane account. In my last I tould you the Kinge had orderd me to caus draw a letter to the counceill for terminatinge that affaer, yisterday morninge all of us uaeted on the Kinge & after his Maje^{ty}: had relaeted to us as mutch as he could remember of uhat the paerty Lords had sayd to him, I presented the letter, uich he rede & orderd us to attend him at six acloke; uee wear uithe the Treasurer in the afternoone who tould us amongst other things that uhat he had sayd to us of the hearinge the Kinge alloued the paerty lords proved triue by the event for sayd he thy are now mutch uors uithe the Kinge then ever: That the Lord Cochrane & his brother S^r Johne talked mor huffey then the rest: L^t Gennerall D^d reserved his spitch till the Kinge was ryseinge out of his chear then he tould the Kinge how he had bene aluays a loyall subjecte & yit had suffered lyk a slaue, that he had bene kipt a prisoner eightne monthes & to this houre kniw not for uhat: that he had uaeted on the King's Host in the west & yit his burdinge was greater then any other, He had come up to offer his service in the ware, & now iff ther was no imployment for him (iff he was criminall) his Maj^{sty} might hange him hear rather then he should retorne home & be persecut lyke a slaue. This is the werry words the Treasurer repeted to me. I showed him the coppye of his letter to Ge^{ll} deyell he sayd littel bot thought ueall: uee attended from sixt till near ten that the Kinge caem in ; as sone as he suped he went to the Dutches of portsmout's & ther uee uaeted till past tuelfe ; in end he orderd me to present the letter to him any tyme this day uich was done befor he went to the Houss & now y^r Grace reseaus it by this post uich I houp uill saetisfie you & I am sur uill be very unpleasinge to the muteniers uhen they know it, severals of them ar goeinge auay, the E. Crafurd tomorrow, & its sayd most iff not all of them uill shortly follow. This day I was tould that

thy resolve to opposs in the convention. This I tould the Kinge ; iff thy dow, sayde he, I shall know uhat to doe nixt. The E. pearthe caem yisternight to the Archbishop of Glasgow insinuatinge that it uear verry fit for him to interposs to begett a good understandinge & reconsille all differensis. He now changes his note, this is far different from the insolent expressions he used formerly.

Adiw.

I besitch, you lett not the gift of S^t Johne urquart of Cromuertys escheat pas untill I have the honor to uaet on you.

LXXXVIII.—THE EARL OF MURRAY TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23242, f. 60.]

Whythall: June: 11: 78.

Its now past midnight & I am just come from the Treasurer. Your Grace shal have sutch account of macters as the short tym allowes me. In my last I tould you of a new storm rased by the party Lords & drifin on by the D. of Monmouthe so confident they uear that they spred a report throw the uholl city that the Convention uas ajurned till Agust: I have not tym to tell you all the passages of this new plote which is now totally defeat. Yisterday I uas thryze uithe the Kinge about it & found him so firm & constant that I had no fear: This morninge uee uear cald to uaet on him, his R. Hynis, Treasurer, & D. of Monmouthe present, uhar it uas fully debaeted; at last the D. of Monmuthe sayd sins I had sayd so mutch in that bussines iff things miscaeried in the Convention the Kinge had me to blaem for it, I replyed as I could bot the Treasurer uas so netild at it that he sayd he uould nather be Minister nor Counciler to the Kinge on thos tearms that things uear layed befor his Majesty. He had maed his oune Choics of the methods he uould have takin, that his servants uould follow them fathefully, bot uhat ever uear the success they uear not to be

blaemed. The Kinge tould the Dwke he did not understand it & uas mutch displeasd uithe him. As sone as I reseave the King's cominand I uill paert from this which I houpe shall be upon friayday or satirday morninge at furdist: Ther uill be som alteration in the Instructions specially the last artcill, I mean the sixt, bot uithout in cace you fynd them opposeing the King's service. Thy say it is bot ajirning the Convention for some fliow days and sendinge ane express for uhat you think fitt to compell them legally, which the King thinks uill be faerer then to doe it befor hand: The Kinge desyrs the noblemen not to be trobled for ther Horsis & Armes uhen thy com to Scotland.^a by the nixt post I houpe I shall send you the letter to the Convention the Instructions & warrand for y^r Graces allouaus.

Adiw.

My humble diouty to my Lady Dutches. I can not uryt to hir till the nixt post.

LXXXIX.—THE DUKE OF YORK TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23242, f. 68.]

London, June 14: 1678.

I would not lett this bearer the Earle of Murra go back into Scotland to you without writing to you by him, I have charged him to say a great deele to you, and he is so well informed of all things here, that it is not necessary for me to say more to you now, only to wish that your endeavors for his Ma: service in the Conuention may succede, and to assure you that you shall find me as much your freind as ever.

^a The only practical benefit which the party appear to have gained.

Xc.—ACCOUNT OF PROCEEDINGS AT THE OPENING OF THE
CONVENTION, JUNE, 1678.*

[23242, f. 69.]

Since Duke Hamiltoun his aryvall in this place great endeavors have been used to perswade him to goe on calmly & frankly in the King's service w^{ch} he pretended never to oppose, bot expected the Commissioner would send for him, and desyred this might be told to the Commissio^r. That in that case he wold concurr. Answer wes That the Commissio^r wold not take upon him to send for the Duke of Hamiltoun, bot if he should come to him He wold friely tell him all he intended to doe that day. Then notice wes brought that he wold come, and some of his freinds told that they hoped he wold himselfe move That the Commissio^r: might move the Comm^{ee} w^{ch} was like to be the first matter in question. The Commissio^r: answered if he wold doe so He should be the first persone his Grace wold name and that he should have all encouragment possible. At last he came just before the hour that ther wes a necessity to goe to the Convention. The Commissio^r received him with all civility, and drawing him to a window, together with my Lord Chancellour to be witnes, He told him exactly all that was intended to be done that day, At w^{ch} his Lo: laughed and desyred that any thing of a Comm^{ee} might be delayed. The Commissio^r answered that this was the express day to w^{ch} the Convention wes called, and the Comm^{ee} to prepare the first thing to be done could not be delayed. He smyled againe and so they parted. At the Coatch syde the Commissio^r: desyred him to goe in to his coatch with the Chancelour and five other principall noblemen, bot he sayd he had a Coatch of his own and had bussines; so my Lord Commissio^r: went on to the Convention accompanied by most of the nobility in their Coatches and waited nere halfe an hour before Duke Hamiltoun & fowr with him came into the house. He stayed upon the throne bot did not take the chair till first he

* Not signed.

delivered his Commisſion to the Chancello^r, who gave it the Register to read, and after it wes read He satt down and put on his hatt and imēdiatly took it off and called for praye^rs w^{ch} being ended the Commisſio^r ordered my Lord Register to call the rolls, w^{ch} being done the oath of alleadgance was read and sworne by all the members of the Convention. Then the whole Convention in obedience to the act of parlia^t: signed the Declaration against the Covenant, asserting the King's prerogative. This done my Lord Chancellour told the Commisſio^r that it was the ancient custome of preceeding Conventions that the King's Commisſio^r should name a Comm^{ee} for considering of Elections & other affaires to be debated in the Convention. So my Lord Commisſio^r rose and begune to name the Comm^{ee}. But Duke Hamiltoun interrupted him once & againe, alleadging that it was against the practise and custome of former Conventions that the Commisſio^r should name the Comm^{ee}. Bot the L^d Commisſio^r: sayd He hoped the Convention wold not suffer him to be interrupted, bot sayd he would doe his duty, and so named the Committee.

Duke Hamiltoun imēdiatly repeated that what was done was against the custom of former Conventions, and that since the whole stress of the affair depended cheifly upon the double & contraverted Elections (w^{ch} by the way does demonstrat that ther was a designe to debate the whole affairs notwithstanding his former professiones Els ther could very litle depend upon double electiones being only in five or six shires), he therfor moved that the Electiones might not be referred to a Comm^{ee}, bot debated in open Convention, In w^{ch} he was seconded by none bot Earle Dumfreis & Sir Alex^r Bruce of Broomhall. To this My Lord Commisſio^r said that the Comm^{ee} was intended to prepair matt's for the Convention and to report to them that the Convention might friely determin. Duke Hamiltoun repeated what he formerly said, and added that in the first session of his Ma^{ties} first parliam^t that Elections wer debated eleven dayes in plaine parliam^t w^{ch} shew that by all this he mainly intended delay. To all this the Lord Advocate spoke succinctly &

smartly with great eloquence asserting the King's prerogatives, and that not only the King and his Commissio^r named Comitties, but that in all other Courts the ordinary Presidents doe name them to evite confusion, and that what was on all ocasions granted to all the Kings in Europe and to our former Kings should not now be refused to the best of Kings. To w^{ch} Duke Hamiltoun replyed by repeating what he had formerly sayd and insisting upon the single instance of the first session of the first parliament.*

The Lord President spoke very handsomly by telling what reason they had to be dutifull & loyal to such a gracious King, that in all his Reigne Scotland never refused his Ma^{tie} anything or contraverted any of his co^mmands, and he hoped they wold not begin now. Then he exhorted the Convention to proceed in the King's service with calmnes and to goe alongst freindly altogether hand in hand to serve him cheirfully as one man. Then he said he had lately perused the records of the preceeding Conventions and that he found the King or his Commissio^r did alwayes name the Comm^{ee}. That it could not be otherwayes wthout spending much tym. As to that instance spoke of by Duke Hamiltoun that it was not to be look on as a president, since it was im^mediatly after the King's happy restauration befor matt's wer settled. Duke Hamiltoun spok againe endeavouring to minse what he had spoke before, saying he intended nothing bot the King's service and what he had said was noway against that, bot that all things might be caryed on in the fairest way and not hudled up in a Comm^{ee}. That he thought the open Convention was the most expedit way. That for his part he could not trust to other men's reports, and that he could not give his opinion in any thing unles he heard the full proceedings and debates in open Convention. And therfor moved againe That the Election might be debated there, Adding notwithstanding of that since my Lord President had said that he had lately perused the records of former

* It will be remembered that immediately after the disgrace of Middleton the composition of the articles was altered as to make the king absolute. Hamilton's reference to the first parliament is, therefore, natural.

conventiones and found it to be their practise that the King's Commissio^r should name the Committis, he desyred the affair might be delayed untill tyme wer allowed him & others to revise all these records, bot he said he remembered no such thing in two former Conventiones where he had been present, Yet confessed the Convention hade desyred the Commissioner to name the Comm^{ee} for preparing affairs, And it may be this Convention would have desyred this Commissio^r to have named the Comm^{ee} if their privileges hade not been intruded upon, bot as to a Comm^{ee} for considering Elections, He still insisted to have it done in open convention still introducing that exemple of the first session of the first parliam^t.

The Commissio^r answered with the greatest calmnes imagenable That he was sure he had not intruded upon the Priveledges of the Convention, bot had done his duty according to the ancient custome, and he hoped the Convention wold not look upon that as intrusion. Asto what the Duke of Hamiltoun said of his so often repeated exemple The Earle of Argile spoke fully, urging both custome & fitness for the Commissio^{ns} nominating the Committees, and as to the parlia^t 1661, things wer then newly come out of a general confusion and that methods had been long in dissuetude, and that those taken at their first sitting wer singular and not to be drawne in exemple, the state then being not intire bot lame, and in the reestablishment of authority to affaires and ther formes were then constituenda and not constituta, bot that afterwards succeeding parlia^{ts} hade reestablished the old legall constitutiones & formes and that those and not a single instance wer to be followed, and that that first session of the first parliam^t was lame and defective was apparent seing it wanted the Estate of Bishops & Legal articles. To this Duke Hamiltoun replied in heat falling severly upon E. Argile as if he had reproached that session of parliam^t, magnifying that session and wishing all others since had been like it, and that it had done more for asserting the King's prerogative then any other (by w^{ch} it seemeth parlia^{ts} without Bishops or

Legall articles are the only best parliam^{ts} in his Grace's sense). My Lord Primat seconded what E. Argile said, asserting it was a lame session wanting the Estate of Bishops w^{ch} by acts of parliam^t was the first of the thrie, and though that parliam^t had served the King very well in asserting his prerogatives, yet he sayd other sessions & parlia^{ts} since had done it more fully. After this thrie or fowr more on that syde urged a delay, So the Lord Chancellour desyred the records to be read, w^{ch} being done It was found that the Commissio^r had alwayes named the Committees in Conventions, In one of w^{ch}, Lord Chancellour being Commissio^r, Duke Hamiltoun preceeded.

Sir George McKenzie of Tarbet sayd that since former Commissio^{rs} did nominat ther ought to be no change now unles ther were a reason given why this Commissio^r: should not doe what others had done, w^{ch} wes not so much as insinuat, As likeways that the Convention should consider That by the second act of the first session of his Ma^{ties} first parliam^t: It was declaired That his Ma^{tie} had sole power to choose Councello^{rs}, officers, and Judges, in this Kingdome, and for any other to doe it was to invade the royall prerogative. Duke Hamiltoun snapt at what wes sayd and reflected upon that gentleman. The Commissioner desyred him to forbear reflectiones. After Lord President, L^d Trea^r Depute, L^d Justice Clerk, Lord Register and others had spoken to the bussines, The Lord Chancelour asked the sense of the house on the whole, who from all the benses with a full acclamation (Duke Hamiltoun and six or seven more only excepted), Did humbly desire the King's Commissio^r: might name the Comm^{ee}: Whereupon the Commissio^r finding it the unanimous desyre of the House, he adhered to his former nominationes. After w^{ch} My Lord Commissio^r told the Convention that he had a Letter to y^m from his Ma^{ty} and severall other things to tell them by his Ma^{ties} command, bot being late He wold delay y^m till next meeting. In the mean tyme He was expressly commanded by the King to put y^m in mynd of the 4th & 11th acts of the first session of the King's first parliament

against illegall meetings for treating and consulting in state affaires Except in ordinary Judgments. So the acts wer read. The Commissio^r said this not to reflect upon any thing past or that he feared any such thing now, bot only to give fair warning that no such meetings wold be allowed now Especially during the Convention, and if any wer He behoved to requyr the Advocate to doe his duty seing such meetings wer by the Law declared seditious. Duke Hamiltoun seemed displeased, pretending he understood not what the meaning of it was, Bot Lord Chancellour explained it. Then my Lord Commissioner sayd againe that he neither meant nor intended any reflection upon any body or upon any thing past. And so My L^d Commissio^r desyred Lord Chancellour to adjourne the Convention till fryday next at fowr in the evening and appoynted the Comm^{ee} to sitt next day forenoon and afternoon and fryday in the morning.

XCI.—CHARLES II. TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23242, f. 84.]

Whithall, 19 July, 1678.

I have received your dispatch by Lundy, and have had a very good accounte from him of all that past. I am extreamly well satisfied with what you have done and the manner of it, and now I give you leave to come hither as soone as you can conveniently that you may give me a ffarther accounte of the state of that Kingdome, and I may thanke you my selfe for the services you have done me there, which I am so sensible of that you neede not in the least feare your enimies shall have more creditt with me to your preiudice, then they have hetherto had, but that you shall always finde [me] your true friende

C. R.

For the Duke of Lauderdale.

XCII.—THE DUKE OF YORK TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23242, f. 86].

London, July 24 [1678].

I received with much satisfaction your of the 14: by Mr Drummond by which and the account which he gave me I was very glad to find you had so well finished his Ma: affairs in the Convention, notwithstanding the discourses some had held, that it would not have so calme and good an ending, which has not only had a very good effect there, but his Ma: will find the good of it in relation to his affairs in all his dominions, for I can assure you, the ill people here had great hops of sturs where you are, and I belive some of our neighbours did build upon it also, and I hope it will also have this other good effect, that it will strenghten his Ma: in the resolutions he has taken of sticking to himself and those that he employs in his service, espesially such as have served him so well as you have done. I am glad to heare that you thinke of coming, and shall say no more to you till you are here.

 XCIII.—COLONEL WILLIAM STROTHER TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23242, f. 99.]

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

I got a letter from the Earle of Home, that thare weare severall persons of Welshes ffaction at Learmouth in Northumb, whom by the Law of Scotland, and his Majesties Privie Councill I have declared Rebellis, and ffugitives, upon receipt of which I immediately went to Learmouth, and made search for those persons whith those freinds I had heare, as my Brother Salkeild, my Bro: Strother and my Cosin Marclay, and our servants. I was thare by Breake of day. I found none of them thare, I went from thence

to the Earle of Home, and dispersed my servants saving three, caues my Lord Home and I could have noe information of them; sounē after we weare comming home, we over tooke 14 or 15 horse men, well mounted, and 3 or 4 shott about them, thay stopt when thay se us come up to them, I demanded what was thare businesse, and whithēr thay wear going so well armed, thay wear rude in thare answear, and sayd thay would give us noe account, but whipt out thare pistells, and threw ten or twelve shott amongst us, before we got out ours, one shot took place upon my Cosin Mackay and shot him in the head dead. Other shotts in thre places hit my Bro: Strother's horse in thre places and killed him; then it was our fortune to kill one of them called Mr Carr of Chirietreas, thay made away after his fall; I hear sinse thay heard of our being searching for them, and that we had lesned most of our number, as will be proved upon oath, and sayd thay would meet us in the back comming. May it please your Grace, If thare be not a force kept in these Borders, we shall not be safe in our beds, we think Welsh was amongst them, by the discription of his phisogminy your Grace's Brother my Lord Hatton sent me: When the Corroner hath examined witnesses and done his worke, then I must trouble your Grace wth another letter. Pardon this bouldnesse which comes from the meanest of

Yo^r Grace's

Most Humble Servant,

WILL: STROTHER.

Fowbury,

Sept^r: the 15th
78.

We have ordred our militia troop to range the Borders till further order from above.

Endorsed [by A. Forrester ?]

Colonel Strother to his G: &c.

XCIV.—TO THE EARL OF LINLITHGOW.

[The fight at Lasmahago.]

[23243, f. 34.]

Edinb, 1st Aprile, 1679.

The Phannaticks in Clitsdale are still so bold as to resist and to assault the King's forces by force of armes: I gave formerly account that a party of armed men well mounted on horse back had surprized two or thrie Dragoons in their quarters in the parosh of Lesmahagoe in Clitsdale, And what is now to be informed is the second part of the same tune w^{ch} is as follows. Upon sunday last early in the morning Major White (whose Company of foot lyes at Lanerk) gets notice of a field conventicle which wes to be kept within the parosh of Lesmahagoe (w^{ch} belongs to the Duke of Hamilton). This being too great a distance for foot to march, and to come in time to dissipate y^m, The Major comānded out a party of twenty Dragoones comānded by Liew^t Dalzell & Ensigne Menzies. Upon their march to the place they observed severall persons at a distance going to the Conventicle, some of which they followed. All of y^m took the Mosses where they catcht thrie or four prisoners and left six Dragoons to guard y^m. The rest of the Dragoons went on to the place wher the Conventicle wes kept and ordered the other six to follow. Before they came at the place they took oy' thrie prisoners on horseback well mounted and well armed, and therafter they observed where the Conventicle wes, bot at that distance could not perceive that ther wes armed men. Then they marched and putt a hill betwixt y^m & the Conventicle, thinking therby to surprize y^m. Bot when they came over the hill they perceived thrie Companies of foot drawne up in order, about a hundreth a peece and a Troop of horse about sixty. There wes of the foot about a hundreth & twenty armed with Musquets & firlocks. The rest wer armed with swords, halberds, and pickforks & such like. The Troop of Horse wer well mounted, all of y^m had hulsterpistolls and many of y^m had carobines, severalls of y^m had periwiggs & stuff cloaks, and some of y^m blew. When they per-

ceived the dragoones advancing (who wer bot fourtein with their officers) the Whiggs formally drew out a party of eighty foot and advanced. The rest designed to surround the Dragoons, whereupon the officers of the Dragoones required y^m in the King's name to Dissipate ; wherupon the coñmander of the Whiggs horse ansuered disdainefully, Farts in the Kings teath, and the Counsell, and all that hes sent you, for wee appear here for the King of Heaven, and iñediately thereafter the coñmanded party of the Whiggs presented and fired, and at the same time the Dragoones fired upon them, and iñediately thereafter the Whiggs horse and foot fell in pell, mell, upon the Dragoons and wounded Licut. Dalzell mortally in severall places, one wherof is in the groyn or lisk with a partizan or pitchfork, and took him and seven Dragoons prisoners. The Ensigne and the oy^r seven Dragoons made their retreit & escaped. The first six Dragoons that guarded the thrie prisoners thought it fitt never to come up, bot went straight back to Lanerk with their prisoners. This scuffle fell out about eleven aclock on sunday. After this they read the Covenant to the Lieu^t: lying upon the ground wounded, and thereafter went to their conventicle wher ther wes fowr sermones & lectures, and at seven aclock at night they dismissed the Lieu^t and the seven Dragoones their prisoners bot kept their horse & armes. One of the Coñmanders of the Whiggs foot wes knowne to be of the name of Cleland, whose father lives in the toun of Douglas. The Capⁿ of the Whiggs horse is supposed one Hamiltoun, second sone to the deceist Sir Thomas Hamiltoun of Prestoun. The rest are not yet knowne. Major Whyte immediatly upon notice of this sent severall parties to follow the Whiggs, and to try whether they wer dissipate or were yet together in armes, and at the same time dispatched hither Ensigne Menzeis who gave this p̄ticular account to the Comm^{ee} of Councill this day at ten aclock and wee expect a fury^r: account from Major White & my Lord Ross to morrow. What hes fury^r: followed upon this The Comm^{ee} is to report this to the Councill the morrow, and no doubt the Councill will send to yo^r Grace the Majo^rs lette^r: with what fury^r:

accompt they get of this affair upon thursday next. Ther is fyve or six prisoners sent in by my Lord Airlies Lieu^t from Merse & Tiviotdale who are great rogues, bot of mean quality. This proves to be no good effects of the meeting at Hamiltoun that I wrote of by the last at w^{ch} meeting the Earle of Pearth wes, & this day its reported hier that he is gone or going to London.

Endorsed :

Lasmahago.

A good account of the action ther & the Rebels cariage.

XCV.—JOHN GRAHAME OF CLAVERHOUSE TO THE EARL OF
LINLITHGOW.^a

MY LORD,

Glaskan, Jun the 1, 1679.

Upon Saturday's night, when my lord Rosse cam in to this place, I marched out; and, because of the insolency that had been done tuo nights befor at Ruglen, I went thither and inquiryed for there names. So soon as I got them, I sent out partys to sease on them; and found, not only three of those rogues, but also ane intercomend minister called King. We had them at Streuen about six in the morning yesterday, and, resolving to convoy them to this, I thought that we might mak a litle tour to see if we could fall upon a conventicle; which we did, litle to our advantadge. For, when we came in sight of them, we found them drawn up in batell upon a most advantagious ground, to which there was no coming but through moses and lotkess. They wer not preaching, and had sat away all there weomen and shildring. They consisted of four bataillons of foot, all well armed with fusese and pitch forks, and three squadrons of horse. We sent both partys to shirmish, they of foot and we of dragoons. They run for it, and sent down a bataillon of foot; against them we sent threescor of dragoons, who

^a This letter is from the Stow Collection.

mad them run again shamfully; but, in end, they percaiving that we had the better of them in skirmish, they resolved a generall ingadgement, and imediatly advanced with there foot, the horse folouing. They came throught the lotche, and the greatest body of all made up against my troupe. We keepled our fyr till they wer with in ten pace of us; they received our fyr and advanced to the shok. The first they gave us broght down the Coronet, Mr. Crafford, and captain Bleith, beseids that with a pitch fork they made such an opening in my sorre horses belly, that his guts hung out half an elle; and yet he caryed me af an myl. Which so disin[c]oroged our men, that they sustined not the shok, but fell into disorder. There horse took the occasion of this, and perseud us so hotly that we got no tym to ragly. I saved the standarts, but lost on the place about aight ord ten men, beseids wounded; but the dragoons lost many mor. They ar not com esily af on the other side, for I sawe severall of them fall befor we cam to the shok. I mad the best retraite the confusion of our people would suffer, and am nou laying with my Lord Ross. The toun of Streven dreu up as we was making our retrait, and thoght of a pass to cut us of; but we took couradge and fell to them, made them run leaving a dousain on the place. What theses rogues will doe next I knou not, but the country was flocking to them from all hands. This may be counted the beginning of the rebellion in my opinion.

I am, my Lord,
 Your Lordship's most humble servant,
 J. GRAHAME.

My Lord, I am so wearied and so sleapy that I have wryten this very confusedly.

XCVI.—THE EARL OF ROSSE TO THE EARL OF LINLITHGOW.

[23244, f. 1.]

MY LORD,

Glasgow, 2 Jun. 6 a'clocke at night.

This morning thes rogwes had the confidence to asawlte us about eleven a'clock; the first atempt wes up the galow gait, ther nixt wes down that streat which comes from the head of the towne, bot I had baricaded all the 4 streits so well and lyned them with musketeirs and paced dragowns behind them for a relife, keeping E. Homs troope and Claverces (?) intire in a body; in the market place owr sowldiers wer very active and we galed them soc with owr shot that at last they run for it throwing down ther arms, the number of thes that are killed I can not condesend wpon as yet, the town's people hurled ther dead bodies so quickly of the streit; we have taken a great many of ther wounded men and still taking mor owt of ther howses they fled to. I blise god non of owr officers hes resaved any hurte, some few of owr sowldiers ar ill wounded two of which onlly I think shall dye. I know not what Jwdgment to give of this afaire bot I am swre thes wes the warmest day I saw the year, I dwrst not adventer to follow them when they run fearing ane ambush, but so sown as they were clear away I sent the horss and dragowns to fall wpon ther reare, and they are I wot now with them at a place cald Dambeth 3 myles east of this, they seam to move towards boglholl; we keepe the market place still and this is our present postore. I am your Lo: most humble servant,

ROSSE.

Endorsed:

The Lord Rosse his lettre to the Major Generall, 2 June, 1679.

XCVII.—THE EARL OF LINLITHGOW'S ACCOUNT OF THE
REBELLION.

[23244, f. 2.]

The first time that the Rebels were actually in Armes in a body was at Lowdown hill, where they did encounter Captaine Gr[a]hame of Claverhouse & his party & beat them; at which time by the Councell's command, his Ma^{ties} forces being quartered some in Glassgow, some in Dumfreis, & some in ffile; I having then the honour to command his Ma^{ties} forces in Scotland, by an express was informed of the Rebell's insolences, & that many of the Country people (being encouraged by that successe at Lowdown hill) were Joyning with the Rebels in greate numbers, I judged it then fitt to draw his Ma^{ties} forces together and did order those that were at Dum (*sic*) to march to Edenburgh, those in ffile to march to Sterling, and those in Glasgou to continue there, looking on those three places to be the most considerable in Scotland to be lookt to for his Ma^{ties} Service. I did Immediate write to the Lord Chancellour giving him an account of the affaire and did desire that he would come over to Edenburgh & call the Councill. The next morning I had an express from the Lord Rosse who commanded the forces in Glassgow, whereby he acquainted me that he had upon Sunday about 2 or 3 of the clock in the afternoon gote intelligence from Captaine Grhame of Claverhouse that the Rebels were in Armes at Lowdown hill, and did desire assistance from him so soon as possibly he could, accordingly the Lord Ross marched out of Glassgow about 5 of the clock at night, but had not marched above 3 or 4 miles when he met Captaine Grhame of Claverhouse with some of his broken troopes, whereupon the Lord Ross concluded it fitt to returne to Glassgow, and to post themselves there as advantagiously as he could by barricading the mercat place. Upon Tuesday about 10 or 11 of the clock in the morning, the Rebels had the confidence to attaque his Ma^{ties} forces within their

barracados by two severall streets, but after a litle firing, and some of them kill'd, they found it was not so easie a work as they Imagined; they retired in disorder, and set about a mile from the towne whereupon all the horse & Dragoons were commanded to observe their motion, But the rebels had posted themselves in very advantagious ground, & being a great deal more numerous at last marched off to the towne of Hamilton where they quartered that night. Upon Wedensday morning I marched from Edenburgh with all the forces that were there, and did send an order to the Lord Ross to march with those that were with him at Glasgow to Sterling, which accordingly he did. That night I lay with those I brought from Edenburgh, in ffalkirk, and stood most of the night to our Armes, being alarm'd by parties that were going to Joyne the Rebels, and takeing horses in the country round about, I sent orders that night to the Lord Ross to meet me early next morning with the forces he had with him at a place called Larbour some two miles from ffalkirk, and being all Joyned together, I found we were about 1800 horse foot & dragoons, with these (few in comparison with the Rebels) I resolved to march towards Glasgow, to see if possible to make myself Master of that place before the Rebels should enter it, by which meanes we should have gote refreshment for our Souldiers, who wanted it extreamly. That night I marched to Killisyth, where we found litle or no refreshment for the souldiers. I sent Immediatly away two foot souldiers in Disguise for Intelligence, who returned before I came to Kirk-tontilloch, who had been among the Enemy, And declared that they consisted in number betwixt 7 and 8,000 and a considerable number of them being very well armed, I sent Immediatly out a party of his Ma^{ty}'s troop of guards commanded by a very Descret and understanding man, at his returne he gave me an account, that they had seen the Rebels march into Glasgow, and that a party of 200 horse had marched throu Glasgow to the place where they were, and that they could not be judged lesse then 7,000 men. Upon this intelligence I called most of the principall officers and

asked their opinion what was fittest for us to doe, who all Generall (except three or four) thought it not fitt to hazard the few standing forces his Ma^{ty} had in Scotland so unequally. A considerable person did say it would be a betraying of the King's Service to hazard that handfull of his standing forces upon such disadvantageous termes, & offered to sett it under his hand, And I acknowledge I myself was of that Judgement. The reasons I had for it were these, first, According to our Intelligence the inequality of our number, next the best part of our forces which were those which had been with the Lord Ross at Glassgow had not been from under their armes since the Sunday before at 3 of the clock in the afternoon, and wanted both sleep & meat so extreemly that they were scarce able to stand on their leggs. If we had then marched forward to Glasgow, the Rebels might either have kept the towne, which we could hardly beat them out of it without firing of it, or posted themselves without the towne very advantageously, betwixt us and the towne, that we behooved either to fight them upon very unequal termes or be starved for want of bread, for we had non, nor was it possible for us to get any there. These considerations together with this, that being sure we should encrease every day, made me Judge in prudence I ought not to put that to hazard, which I was sure would be caried without any with a few dayes delay, untill the forces came up that were commanded out by the Councill, and should I have hazarded these few forces that were there and got the least ruffle, the consequences of it might have been of too great Importance to Scotland. Upon these considerations I resolved to march to Sterling that night, being the greatest pass in Scotland, and fittest place for joyning the Northerne forces. I did give the Councill Immediatly from the place an account of what I had resolved, and desired their commands, and if they thought fitt I should engage the enemy, I should againe march from Sterling towards them. About 7 of the clock next morning I receaved their commands to march to Edenburgh untill the rest of the forces came up, and their approbation of what I had done.

When I marched from Edenburgh I had no cannon, & wanted of his Ma^{ties} Standing forces 2 Companies of his Ma^{ties} Regiment of Guards, one Company of Dragoons who could not so soon march from Dumfreis, likewise 60 of his Ma^{ties} Regiment of Guards more then at Burroustounness & now in Garison in Blacknesse, besides severall parties both of horse & foot, who were quartering in the severall shyres for publiet dues.

Relation of the Rebellion 1679.

XCVIII.—JOURNALS OF PRIVY COUNCIL.

[Add. 23244, f. 10.]

Edinburgh, 16 June, 1679, ante meridiem.

Resolved that the march of the army be delayed till to morrow, in regard of the great rains, and that some things for the amunition and artillerie are not yet ready, and that the army march by the way of Linlithgow towards Hamiltoun in quest of the enemie.

A proclamation past discharging heretours officers and soldiers of the militia who have comed to the randevouz under their commanders to desert the host certifieing them if they contraveen they shall be lyable to the pains and penalties provided by the acts of parliament against deserters of the Kings hoste.

Eodem die a meridie.

Warrant given to the Major Generall to cause bring in cowes oxen sheep and uy^r provisions for the use of the use of the army, and that the Commissary make distribution y^r of as he shall find cause.

Act past approving the resolution of the Colledge of Justice to putt themselves in a posture and allowing them to be armed to that effect.

Hamiltoune of Kinkells taken in ffyffe with a party in armes goeing towards the rebels to joyne with them. Having at his first

examination refused to answer, and it being resolved that he should be againe called & interrogate upon some interrogators drawne up and if he should refuse to answer or by his answers it should appear he were disingenuous that he should be questioned by torture in the boots; who being called and he having confest that he was in armes from the monday untill the tuesday thereafter that he was taken, and that he travelled in armes towards the west end of ffyffe with four score men in his company in armes of purpose to joyne with the rebels, denyed that he had any correspondence with any of the rebels in the west befor or since their rying in armes, or knew anything of their rying till after they were in armes, denyed that he commanded the party was with him in armes, confest he was present at the house of Kinloch when Captain Cairstairs, Mr. Garret, and some others were invaded and wounded, and was in armes and his sword drawne, but denyed that he spoke these words that he commanded Cairstairs to render his sword in name of God and the Covenant. The lords upon consideration of his answers thought fitt to forbear torture and remitted him to the Justices for his tryall for being in the rebellion.

XCIX.—THE PRIVY COUNCIL'S ACCOUNT OF THE BATTLE OF
BOTHWELL BRIGG TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[2324, f. 16]

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

Wee send the flying packett with great joy, that your Grace may give his Majesty the good & happy newes of a totall & absolut victory obtained this day over ye rebels by his Majesties forces in this kingdom under the conduct of his Grace the Duke of Buccleuch, which happened in this maner.

This morning by seven a clock our army was drawne up at Bothwell bridge which the enemy lycing on the other syd thereof

had barricaded; here a supplication is brought to the L^t Generall by one of the rebells^a giving him notice that they would lay doune their armes upon no other termes than those exprest in their large declaration. His Grace told the bearer these were destructive to the King's authority and fundamentall constitution of this Kingdom, and that they were to expect no other articles from him bot to lay doune armes, and render themselves to his mercy. This they refused to doe, and immediatly the gunnes begane to play upon them which did som what disorder them, then a party attackt the bridge, and after some short dispute caryd it. The rebells being beatten from it retreated a litle, and stayed at some distance till most of his Majesties forces were gott over that passe; soon after by some more play with the gunnes & another assault their horse began to run and scatter upon all corners, leaving their flying foot to the mercy of our army who persewd them with all diligence & zeall, and have killd some hundreds of them, and taken many hundreds prisoners, many of their foot fled into the wood of Hamiltoun which is surrounded by his Majesties forces, and a detach^t party under Lieutenant Collonell Dowglass is sent in after them, which will give ane good account of them; our army is still in persute of the rebells when Lundin came away about Ten a clock who haveing bein sent from ws to wait on the General had the good fortune to be an actour also well as witnes in this engagment so that his Majesty may be assured that this is a totall rout and disconfitur of these insolent rebells.

The Lord Generall hath behaved himself with exceeding great conduct & magnanimity, and all the officers, gentlemen and souldiers have caryed themselves with great cheerfulness and resolution against the enemies of our religion, King & countrey, and above all the mercy of God hath bein most signall & wonderfull to us, even to a miracle, in so much that though the rebells were near seven

^a The Supplication is in Wodrow. That contained in these letters is practically identical.—See Appendix.

thousand, yet are they totally routed without any losse to his Majesties forces, save of two or thrie common souldiers.

Wee doubt not bot by God's mercy and blissing, and our Gracious soveraigne his royeall wisdome this glorious victory shall be so per-sewd as that rebellion and schisme shall be plukt up by the roots in Scotland; a more full & particular narration shall be sent to your Grace how soon wee receave it, mean while upon receipt of the flying packett wee mett at twelve a clock where the Lord Chancellor delyverd the commission sent from his Majesty to Generall Dalzeel, who is immediatly to repair to the army and to enter upon his charge. Nothing shall be omitted by us for securing of all ports & passages for seizing and apprehending such of y^e rebels as may endeavour y^r escape, nor any thing else which may contribut to the utter extinguishing of this violent flame which may be expected from

Your Grace's most humble servants,

Edinburgh, 22 June, 1679.

J. DRUMMOND.
F. WAUCHOPE.

ROTHES CANCELL.

DOUGLAS. T. DALYELL.
MORRAY. A. RAMSAY.

JO. EDINBURGEN.

G. MONRO.

G. KINNAIRD.

For his Grace the Duke of Lauderdale.

Endorsed :—The Lords of the Privy Councill to his Grace, 22th June, 1679.

C.—THE DUKE OF MONMOUTH TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23244, f. 18.]

I have received your Graces letter and the Proclamation with it, which I immediatly acquainted the Councill with, and it is to bee proclaimed to maro; I give your Grace many thanks for your being

so well pleased with the success I have had against the Rebels,
I hope it may prove happy for the King both here and in England,
I am sure I shall think myself very happy if it does. I will give
your Grace no further trouble now, but to assure you that I am

Your Graces's most humble

and obedient servant,

MONMOUTH.

CI.—SCOTCH BISHOPS TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23244, f. 41].

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

Edinburgh, Julii 18, 1679.

Having been together here upon no other errand but to comfort and confirm the regular and orthodox clergy of this poor afflicted rent church, which groaneth under extreme contempt and other pressures, which are by so much the sharper and heavier by how much we look't on this as a tyme and opportunitie given by God for our releef and deliverance, we found our selves bound to offer to my Lord ArchBishop of Glasgow a modest representation of the sad and lamentable case of this church in her present circumstances, which we have desired may be Imparted to your Grace, and so far made use of as your Grace and he shall think fit or conducive for the interest and service of the King and Church.

We must lament to your Grace the danger the Protestant religion is in, of being subverted by Atheism and next by Poperie throw y^e prevalence of schism and libertism; and how useless and insignificant we are like to prove in our stations for the service of religion, being so openlie attacked by both, and therefore we must humbly implore and supplicate your Grace's help and assistance on behalf of this desolate Church and of the orderlie and loyall officers and ministers thereof, that we may be preserved in some tolerable capacitie for serving y^e ends of religion and of this monarchie against the malice and artifices of the restless adversaries of both.

With how much zeale and concern yo^r Grace hath alreadie appeared for the Church and its order and unitie wee have received full information, which doeth not a litle comfort and encourage us, as also embolden us to become humble suitors to yo^r Grace as the great patron of the Church next under God and our Royall Master, that you may be pleased to continue your caire and endeavors for the preservation and deliverance thereof, in doeing whereof you may promise yourself aue blessing from heaven, and that God will signallie owne and defend yo^r Grace, and make your name and familie famous and glorious to all generations.

Wee rejoyce in the just sense yo^r Royall master hath of yo^r eminent usefullness, integritie and faithfullness in his service, for the great interests of this Church and Kingdom, and of his firm and unalterable owning of you against all oppositions, and wee sall not be wanting to pray that as your great merit hath so justlie procured yo^r earthlie master's esteem and favour, so your zeale and care for religion and the Church may secure for your Grace the eternall blessing and favour of the King of Kings as yo^r Immortall and interminable felicitie—this is the fervent prayer and devotion of

May it Please yo^r Grace,

Yo^r Graces most humble and most
faithfull servants,

JO: EDINBURGEN:

JA: DUNBLANEN:

ARTH. ELECT BP. OF GALLOWAY
AND SODOREN:

COLINE ELECT BP. OF ARGYLE
AND ARCHID S^r AND.

CII.—PETITION OF MR. JOHN KID* TO CHARLES II.

[23244, f. 45.]

UNTO HIS MOST SACRED MAJESTIE,

The Supplication of Mr John Kid, prisoner in the Tolbooth of
Edinburgh,

Humblic Sheweth,

That your petitioner being unfortunately neer Bothwell Bridge in company with those who were then in armes against your Royall authority att that tyme when his Grace The Duke of Monmouth your Ma^{ties} Generall did totally rout and dissipat them, I did yeeld myself prisoner to some souldiers upon promise of quarter and full assurance off lyfe, and being brought by them to My Lord Generall, His Grace wes graciously pleased to Ratify the quarter given by them and further to assure me that I should not onely be secure as to the said quarter, But also be civilly used, all which wes accordingly observed so long as my Lord did remaine heir in Scotland. Lyke as his Grace the day befor he went hence wes graciously pleased to assure your petitioner's wyfe that the quarter he had promised to your petitioner should be fully performed. Notwithstanding of all which your petitioner is Indyted befor the Justice court for his lyfe, Because My Lord Duke of Monmouth His Grace did leave nothing heer behind him in wryte to testify that your petitioner wes by his Grace fully assured off Lyfe and quarter as said is, and I will certainly suffer unless your Ma^{tie} be graciously pleased to prevent the same.

May it therefor please your Ma^{tie} out of your annate clemencie and goodnes to compassionate your petitioner's conditione and to grant warrand to the Lords of your Ma^{ties} Justiciarie and all others to sift all procedure or executione against your petitioners persone and Lyfe for such competent tyme as your Ma^{tie} shall think fitt,

* He and John King were both executed on August 14.

untill your Ma^{ty} be fully cleared and informed of the verity of the premisses and your Majesties petitioner shall ever pray.

Jo: KID.

Endorsed :

“ Mr. Jo: Kid's petition.”

CIII.—PETITION OF MR. JOHN KING TO CHARLES II.

[23244, f. 47.]

UNTO HIS MOST SACRED MAJESTIE,

The supplicatione of M^r John King prisoner in the Tolbuith of Edinbrugh.

Humblic Showeth,

That your Majesties petitioner being denounced rebell and intercomuned for not compeiring before the Lords off your Majestie's privie counsell In Scotland to answer to a complaint raised against him for being present at some Conventiels, he wes necessitate ever since to lurk for securitie of his lyfe untill the first off Juny last, at which tyme he wes taken out off his bed by Captain Grahame off Claverhous, and caried alongs with him, being bound with cords, at that tyme when Robert Hamiltoune and some others did kill some off Claverhouse men, and force him to retreat, by whom your Majesties petitioner wes loused and kepted for severall dayes, during all which tyme he nether preached unto them nor used anie methods or perswasions to incite or incuradge them to rebellione, but on the contrair did use all indeavors to perswade them to loyaltie and Christianite. And your Maties petitioner haveing deserted them the morning off the ingadgement at Bothwell Bridge, He wes since taken out off his bed by some off your Maties forces and brought prisoner to Glasgow and from thence to Edinbrugh, wher he is in hazard off his lyffe upon the accompt of his being in companie with the forsaide persones when they wer in arms, and is

to be summarie indicted before the Justice court for that effect. And seeing your Majesties petitioners being with them at that tyme, did not proceed from anie disloyall or rebellious principle, being meerlie accidentall and occasioned as is aforesaid, and that during the tyme he wes with them he did behave himselfe both christianlie and peaceable, and would not preach vnto them so long as they wer in such ane warlyke and militarie posture without anie warrand from authoritie.

May it therfore pleas your Matie. out off your innate clemencie and compassion to comiserate your petitioner conditione, and to grant a repyve for some competent tyme vntill your Matie. be fullie informed of your petitioner's peaceable deportment in all that affair, and to discharge the Lords off your Majesties justitiarie and all others to proceed to pronounce anie sentence against your Majesties petitioner for his lyfe or to putt the same to executione when pronounced ay and while your Matie. shall think fitt to give a speciall warrand under your Royall hand for that effect, And your Maties. petitioner shall ever pray.

JOHN KING.

Petitione of Mr. John King To his most sacred Majestie 1679.

CIV.—THE PRIVY COUNCIL TO CHARLES II.

[23244, f. 49.]

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MOST SACRED MAJESTIE,

By a fleeing packett this day, wee had the honor of your Majesties commands in order to our procedor against the execrable murtherers of the late Archbishop of St. Andrewes, To which wee shall pay most carefull and exact obedience, and are now preparing the best expedients for that effect.

Wee have already ordered the Lords of Justiciary to proceed against some of the ringleaders in the late rebellion, who have

accordingly sentenced two of the incendiary preachers, viz., Master King and Master Kid^a to be execut'd as traitours on the fourteenth of August nixt at the croce of Edinburgh; and wee shall be careful to require them to goe on to the tryalls of the other heretours, preachers or ringleaders, who were engaged in the late rebellion, and are already in custodie, and such others in their circumstanees as shall be apprehended hereafter: ffor this purpose wee have appointed a Committy to prepare the best methods to be offerred to ws, for giving more exact and speedie obedience to your royall commands hereanent; and we shall in every thing endeavour with our outmost ambition to approve ourselves,

May it please your most sacred Majesty,
Your Majesties most humble, most obedient and most faithful
subjects and servants,

ROTHES.

ROTHES CANCELL.

DOUGLAS.

MONTROSE.

MARSCHALL.

ABOYNE KINTORE.

J. FOULIS ELPHINSTON.

T. WAUCHOPE.

JO: EDINBURGEN:

A. RAMSAY.

Edinburgh, last July, 1679.

For the King's Majestic.

CV.—LORD MORDINTON TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23244, f. 59.]

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

Rock, 29 Sept. '79.

I never thought my penn worthe the congratulating of your Grace's victorie over your ennimies. Experience teacheth the

^a See two preceding letters.

world that your noble worth is able to dare anie storme nor hes ever anie such bein raised, bot to be calmed by your wisdom and begett you a farr greater esteame in all men's myndes. I find it a great satisfacione to all honest menn and a generall rejoysing. You are still yourself the onlie honor and patron of our contrie; no marveill if I presume to participat of the effects who hes ever lived onder your Grace's favor and hes the ambitione to doo so still. Whatever I pretend to shall ever redound less or more to your Grace's service.

Heir is ane English gentelman without exceptione for aught I cann learne of religione, or royaltie, of a verie good frea estate, he (tho it is shew^d? is the only promoter) desirs to be a scots viscount if he cann have a patent for that effect, he proffers five honder peaces in gould and to ondergoo all charges lyable, having great and intimat acquaintance with my weiff's relationes in Yorkshir proffers me a small thing in this contrie, will gett me a honder pound or two. And may doo me severall kyndnesses, if your Grace will obean my suit, a small thing is much to on hes so litle, and your countinence will stand me greater stead norr I cann express. I begg your Grace will lett me onderstand by a lyn from your servant if this cann be expected. I pray God grant you all health and happines whos prosperitie is the daylie wishes of

My Lord,

Your Grace's most devoted humble
servant and kinsman,

W. MORDINTON.

Be pleased to caus direct your ansuir to the poastmaster of Annwck.

Im confident your Grace will be myndfull of my last request for a prtectioun for 3 years.

To the Duke of Lauderdale.

Endorsed :—

The Lord Viscount Mordinton to my Lord Duke,
29th Septem^r, 1679.

CVI.—LETTER AND MEMORANDUM FROM SOME OF THE PRIVY
COUNCIL TO DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[See following four letters]

[23245, f. 3.]

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

The within written paper being the product of all our joynt thoughts is seriuslic offer^d to y^r G. consideration by

Your Grace's

Most humbl serv^{ts}.

ROTHES.

ARGYLL.

MORRAY.

CH : MAITLAND.

GEO. MACKENZIE.

Edinbrugh, 6 No^r, 1679.

[23245, f. 5.]

It is humblie moved, whither His Royall Highnes may without taking the oath of alleagiance^a exerce the office of a privie counsellour, since by the Eleventh Act, 1 Session, parliat I. Charles 2^d, It is enacted for the full satisfaction of all his Majestie's good subjects and for removing any scruple or jealousy that could aryse upon that accompt, and to Evidence to the world That His Majestie will imploy none bot such as all honest men and good subjects may confide in, That therfore His Majestie will make it his Royall care, and the Kings Majestie with Advice and Consent of his Estate of parliament doeth statute and ordain That all who are to be nominated to be Privie Councillours shall before they exerce the said office Take the oath of alleagiance subjoynd to the said Act, which Act being conceived in favours of the subjects and to secure them, It seems it can not be dispensed with by a letter from his majestie,

^a Containing declaration against Popery.

more then his Majestic can dispens with all other statutes conceaved principallie in favours of the people, since likewise the King promises to make it his Royall care that he shall nominat no other but such as are to be so qualified. This statute seems to be a parliamentarie contract betuixt King and people for the securitie of the kingdome. It will be also considered whither the passing by the Act may not breed jealousies and fears in his Majestic's subjects to the prejudice of his Royall Highnes, who would never think themselves secure by any Limitation to be put upon the successor whilst they saw that none could bind the subject. These considerations are sent to your G^r/ for your own information and securitie, and that if you please you may represent them to his sacred Majestic to the end he may have the affair intirelie before him, and least any of his Ministers or Councillours may be hereafter challanged for not informing his Maj. fullie in so concerning a preparative.

CVII.—THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE TO THE DUKE OF YORK.

[23245, f. 10.]

Whitehall, 18th Novem^r: 1679.

By the very next Post after your R: II: parted from this I gave notice of the order that was coming for your sitting in Councill without taking the Oath, and upon the 8th of this month, I did signify the king's pleasure to my Lord Chancello^r to be communicated to the Councill as you will see by the inclosed copie. By last thursday's Post I received tuo lines signed by some of yo^r faithfulest servants, and within it a Paper, wherein they expresse their apprehensions of the inconvenience it may be to you, if you shall sit in Councill without taking the oath, by reason of the 11th Act, of the first session of King Charles the 2^{da} first parliamt. which was past in the Earle of Midleton's time; and by which an incapacity is put upon all that shall sit without taking it. This Paper I caried to the

King, and with it the Act of Parliament itself, which occasions his Maj^{ties} writing to you by this Exprese. The Oath is certainly much lesse than the Oath of Allegiance here (which I think your Highnes took in the House of Peers) and therfor I hope you will not scruple it ; but if you shall not think fit to take it, I dare not presume to advise yo^r sitting in Councell, which would give too great advantage to your Enemies here & to that pitifull Caball in Scotland who wishes another person better than you,^a whatever their pretenses may be to you ; for I must still say that you are to expect no reall duty, neither from the Party that opposed the King & his authority here & in Scotland nor from the Phanaticks ; for, both of them place their hopes elsewhere than in you. That Paper of the 6th Novem^r was drawne up by the King's Advocat, and I have here sent you a copie of it, and you may call for a sight of the Act of Parliament which enjoynes the Oath, and by it take your measures.

The King has comanded me to give notice that about the time you come to Edenburgh he will give order for raising and continueing that part of the militia which you may remember was proposed long before you went out of England ; and which both his Maj^{tie} & you approved. I shall dispatch the orders to be there soon after you are at Edenburgh, and will send you a copie of them, for the King desires that it may be done by your advice. I shall not trouble you with News from this, which I am sure you will receive from many other hands.

[*Draft* in hands of Andrew Forrester.]

^a Monmouth.

CVIII.—THE DUKE OF YORK TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23245, f. 14.]

Edenburge, Nov: 24: [1679].

I received yours of the 18: on Sunday last at your house of Lethington, and before I say any thing els must returne you my thanks for my being so well acomodated there, and the handsome entertainment I had there. And now I must tell you I was very much surprisid with what I found in your letter, concerning my not sitting in councell without I tooke the oath mentioned in the act you name, for I could not inmagine how this came neither to be thought on, nor to have been moved to me, when I satt in the Scots Councell at Hampton Court, nor in all this tyme that I have been Admirall of this kingdome, and I am so far difering with you in opinion of my owne concerne in it, that I am verly perswaded that should I not sitt there, my enemys would take very great advantage against me, and attaque me by ways they never thought on before, should they be encouraged by this precedent. As to the oath I shall say nothing only that I do not looke on my self as bound or tyde up by that act you mention, and have reason to thinke so since when I satt in the Councell in England there were statuts that were very positive for every body's taking the oaths of Alegiance and supremacy, before they satt in councell or were capable of having any office of great trust, notwithstanding which those oaths were never offerd me or thought to be given me, but of these and my other reasons you will have an account from L^d Advocate, and some of the other L^{ds} to whom I communicated what I had to say in that affaire, and discoursed with them upon it, and have reason to beleve that had they knowne what I had to say for myself before they wrot to you, you would not have been troubled with it, nor they made any the least scruple of it, and I hope that when his Ma: and you have read and considred all that is now writen on this subject, there will be such a letter as I desire writen to the Councell here signed by his Ma: and the Lords with

whom I advised with here about this affaire gott the advocat to prepare the draft of such a letter, which they all aproving of I send it to you, and hope that that or one as effectual may be dispatched away with all speed: you see how much concerned I am in this affaire, and I am very sensible how true a freind you have always been to me, therfore continu being so to me now, and be assured you shall find me as hartily your freind as ever.

This gos by the expresse that brought your letter to me, but pray send the answer back to me by a flying paquett as they call it here, which they tell me will come soner then any messenger.

CIX.—THE DUKE OF YORK TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23245, f. 19.]

Edinburgh, Nov. 29 [1679].

I must now keep a constant corispondence with you, and cannot againe hinder my self from letting you know how sensible I am of the good reception I had here, and that I shall endeavour by all the ways I can to lett them see it. I hope by this the expresse I sent away to you on Wensday is with you, and that I shall have a good answer, in the mean tyme you know the council was ajourned, and will be so till the answer coms. Till I sitt there I can say but little to you, only there is one thing I cannot forbear taking notice of; it is that I do not find the troups here have yett any one way of exercising, and that L: Gen: Daliel has a mind to teach them the old german way: now truly I thinke it best for his Ma: service to have all his troups, tho in severall kingdoms, learne one and the same, for many reasons, therefore I thinke you would do well to move his Ma: to give his orders to the L: Gen: upon it, in my letter to his Ma: I shall mention it also to him. I find this house a very good one, and am very well pleased here, and the

weather also is very favorable, for I have not seen a finer season at this tyme of yeare then it is now here, which is all I shall say to you now, but that you may always depend upon my freindship.

CX.—THE DUKE OF YORK TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23245, f. 21.]

Edenbnrgh, December 4 [1679].

I receved this day at none yours of the 30: and by it found the dificultys had been raised here by some were ordred to my satisfaction, and this after none I tooke my place in councell, and assure you am satisfyde of your standing by me in this, as well as in other things of which you shall always find me very sensible, I must now hold a constant corispondance with you, this gos by the post, and by an expresse which will go within two or three days I intend to write more freely to you.

CXI.—THE DUKE OF YORK TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23245, f. 23.]

Edenburgh, Dec: 8 [1679].

This day L: Gen: Daliel is marched with the horse and dragoons towards the west, and to morrow the foott are to follow him, he sent me word this morning by L^d Hatton that there would be a dispute bettwene L^d Marr and L^d Rosse about who should command, L^d Rosse saying that as L: Col: of the gards he ought not to obey a Colonel, he thinks it not proper for him to decide it, I thinke he is in the right, but I thinke it very proper for his Ma: to do it, and not only that, but as to severall other pretensions, as

L^d Montrosse who thinks he may expect the same privelidg all other Cap: of the gards have in all other places, but all these things are to be ordred as his Ma: pleases. I have writen to his Ma: upon this affaire, and find all here desire nothing more then a rule to go by, that there may be no disputs for the tyme to come, therefore pray move his Ma: to send downe a reglement both as to the commands and what way of exercise they shall use, and in my mind it aught to be the same in all his three kingdoms, I find by my last letters the D: of Monmouth continus still very undutifull, I hope his Ma: will stiek firme to him self and true freinds and then he need feare nothing, I have not tyme to say more.

CXII.—THE DUKE OF YORK TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23245, f. 31.]

Edenburgh, Dec. 16 [1679].

On Sunday I received yours of the 9: and this day another of the 11: and you may easily beleve was well pleased with the newes you wrot me, I hope now people, both in and without Whitehall, will behave themselvs better as to his Ma:, after what he has done, espesially when they see he can live so long without a Parliament, and his Ma: stedynesse to him self and friends will keep all things quiat in all his kingdoms, you will have an account from others of what past in counsell, this day, and when once what his Ma: has ordered here concerning the Militia is settled, the westernne men will be very gentel, and their brethren in England will have lesse mind to stur, which is all I shall say now.

CXIII.—BISHOP PATERSON TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23245, f. 54.]

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

Edr. Jarij. 1, 1680.

By these to accept of my best and most heartie wishes of a good comfortable new year and of manie more.

I am still confirmed by evrie day's proof of the great advantage to the King, and to the Monarchie, and indeed to all loyall true men, by his R. H.'s being amongst us ; he sees some men's unsatisfiable humor, and finds out the ungovernable temper of others ; beyond what reports at a distance could ever have moved him to beleeve, and, I doubt not, but he will ere long beare them witness accordinglie.

Great promises were made to his R. H. for bringing in Cameron^a to justice, but as yet no performance ; and if the feat were done, its easie to see that the indulged presbyterian partie and even welsh etc. sould be more obliged thereby, then the King or the Church ; since Cameron divides the former people,^b and cryes out against them as betrayars of the Crowne of Christ, by erastianisme, more then against the others by prelatie—now whose interest it is to oblige and engage a formed stated presbyterian partie against the crowne and monarchie, is easie to be determind in as much, as no faction can ever prosper in Scotland which differs from the King or his methods of governing, unless it be supported and stand upon the leggs of a form'd partie of phanatiques.

Your Gr^{ee} is under God and our King the great support and releef to which this poor church must resort under all its difficulties and troubles, and therfor wee must now flee unto yo^r justice, being attacqd by a foolish and malicious person, whom I am ashamed to name, having some tymes agoe recoñdended him to yo^r Gr^e, under

^a The leader of the extreme Covenanters.

^b This had been the effect—no doubt looked for—of all indulgencies, and the Bishop displays sound judgment in this matter.

a better character, viz., Mr. James Gordon, parson of Banchorie—he hath written (by whose instigation I know not) a most scandalous and villanous libell against most if not all our Bishops, under the title of the Reformed Bishop: and hath stuffed it with so much malice against the late Primate and poor me, as if wee were the basest and worst of men; when wee call him to ane account for this, he founds all the false and calumnious stories in his pamphlet, upon foolish tattle and hear-says, which he thinks is enough to justify him for printing and publishing them as treuths before the world. Wee desire him to goe to his ordinarie the Bp. of Aberdeen to be judged by him, and to make reparation for the injuries done by him to y^e Church and its governors—he refuseth and hath appealed to the primat upon most frivolous pretences—the Primat by joint advice is to declare it male appellatum, and to remitt him to be judged by his ordinarie—meanewhile he hath boldly applied to ye Duke of Albany by a petition, who hath justlie told him that his Highness is not to concern himself in Church-processes, but hath advised him to submitt himself to his Bp. and superior in y^e Church and told me, this morning, he lookes upon him, as ane presumptuos, imperious, hott-headed fellow—and resembles him to one Mr. Jones, who wes once ane under-chaplain to his R. H.^s whom he turned out for abusing one of y^e Bps of England, and who is now a great abettor of Mr. Oates. Now Mr. Gordon gives out, that he will appeale from the Primat and us to the King. And if he doeth so, wee must beg yo^r Gr^e to represent the case to his sacred Matie, that so right may be done to this poor church against such ane villanous abuser of its officers. D^r. Hicks hath seen and read ye book, and can give yo^r Gr^e ane good account of it; ye church is more wounded by it (among a credulous people who are apt to beleeve anie ly against ane orderlie church-man) then by anie or all the lying and malicious pamphlets sent by Brown, Macquair etc. from Holland—it's hard to say what reparation can be made by M^r Gordon for it, or if it be in his power; a full, free and cleer confession of his follie, injustice and malice in

that book, and that made as publisht as is the book it self, is the least can be expected from a true penitent for such a wicked act, qth indeed deserveth to be punished by the hand of ane civil judge, rather then by the sentence of anie church-court. Indeed this wickednes wold be the rather adverted unto, in regard it's a new effort of some mens contryvance who anno 1674 incited to ye motion for a generall assembly.^a And all wise sober and impartiall men here abhorre y^e pamphlett equallie with it's author—wh^o as aeriis insanit quia non est factus episcopus. How much reason he had for falling foul with his calumnies on me, yo^r Gr^e best knows, as if I had been his enemy, but I humbly begg pardon for this, and humbly lays ye consideration of it at your Gr^{es} feet. I sall ever bee while I breath, as I have good reason,

May it Please yo^r Gr^e

Yo^r Gr^es most faithfull and most humble servant,

JO: EDINBURGEN:

Old Mr. Oliver Colt is dead, and I hope yo^r Gr^e will think of a successor to him, how soon you may, to supplie that numerous people.

CXIV.—THE DUKE OF YORK TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23245, f. 71].

Edinburgh, Jan: 31: [1680].

You will easily beleve I was very well pleased with the newse that yours of the 26^a brought me, I had it on thursday night about eleven by the which you see the expresse that brought it rode hard: the highlanders are not yett all come up but are on their way, and I hope may be here next weeke, for I would faine make some

^a See *ante*.

^b In a letter of Jan. 20, James says, "I long to heare that the 26 is well past." I do not know to what he alludes.

progresse in that affaire before I go ; if the wind continu as it is now I shall have leasur to do it for it blows hard at N: so that the yachts must be obliged to put into some of the Northerne ports of England, I am just now agoing to speake with L^d Chanceler and some other of the Lords of the Treas: about completing of the list of officers we have been so long about, and so have not tyme to say more.

CXV.—SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE^a TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23245, f. 73.]

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

[Feb. 1680].

Wee ar free from the indulgence by the not apointeing the ministers to appear but I hear that a new addresse is design^d next counsell day. The countrey is quiet nor doe I think any will ryse whilst the Duk is heer, & wee ow really much to his being heer, for our enimies dare not now own their complaints against the Councell nor doe any differences appear amongst our selvs. Wee ow his kyndnesse for us to yow & if wee imagine wee can stand upon our own leggs wee ar fools, & upon my conscience I never could think it since I knew either the King or Duk, & I am telling your friends so much. I still complain that no pains is taken to get probation against the Rebels uho ar to be forfeited, & with great difficulty I prevaile to get the Commissions for it which hav been sent up to yow & without mor probation all the processes will fall to nothing. I am weary of having all the burden. I could get probation as to Barganie^b if the Duk prest mee not to bring him to a tryall ; but houeever I hav two witnesses as to his design against yow & I expect four new witnesses. I prest the Councell

^a Lord Advocate.

^b See Burnet, 514, and succeeding letters, 109, 113. Also Wodrow, iii. 235.

to signifie their meaning in the Commissions to such as did comand the heritors & they hav declar^d that they had not power to let them stay at home nor to let them goe hom ; this will keep the justices right I hoop, if not I will complain to yow. Bot to bring criminall processes to the Councell is unsafe for your interest, for it is a stretch against Law & wold leav all the odium upon your friends in Councell, & I admir that they ar not sensible of it. Wee should not forget uhat has past so latlie. I find also that the Duk thinks it unsafe for him & that all wold be imputed to his arbitrary inclinations.

I am glad I never lost a caus to the King & that I hav latly gaind on to my Lady Dutchesse, to uhom I have been so much obligd^d that I think all the pains I took too litle, & really I never took so much in one cause nor shall I ever faile to serve her, & it may be mor honestlie than those from uhom shee expects greater things.

CXVI.—THE PRIVY COUNCIL TO CHARLES II.

[23245, f. 84.]

MAY IT PLEASE YO^r SACRED MAJESTY,

The remembrance of having been under the protection of your Royall family above tuo thowsand years; of having been preserved, by their valour from the slavery to which others were so often reduced; and of having receaved from their bounty the lands wee possess; Hath been very much refresh'd and renew'd by having your Royall Brother among ws. In whom wee have seen that moderation of spirit and equality of Justice,^a that is so remarkable in yo^r sacred Race And has raised in ws a just abhorrencie of those seditious persons and pernicious principles, which would lead

^a The testimony of the Privy Council is, of course, worthless as evidence in such a matter, but it is worth remembrance that Pepys speaks highly of James's government of Scotland from personal observation.

ws back unto those dreadfull confusions, which grew up by degrees from tumultuary petitions for reformation & parliament to a rebellion that in the last age destroyed both : and which must do so still, since all who think that subjects should direct their King, designe nothing in effect but to be kings themselves: The cont[ri?]tions of all which did prevale so farr, with all degrees of persons and with persons of all persuasions here, that it has been easily observed, that our Nobility & Gentrie of both sexes attended their Royall Highnesses with much joy and assiduitie, expressing in all their confluences great respect and satisfaction, that even the most malicious abstained from all maner of rebellious rysings or unductifull speeches ; no breach of the peace, no libell, no pasquill, having been ever discovered during his abode here, So that this too short time has been the most peaceable and seren part of our life, and the happiest dayes wee ever saw, Except yo^r Majestic's miraculous restitution. And now that yo^r majesty has thought fitt to have him neer your owne person, wee hope that the great successe he has had in understanding both men and busines among ws by his easie accesse and constant application will enable him to informe your Majesty of our affairs and interests, with which wee trust him much more then wee can this or any other papers that wee can send yow ; His countenance has much encourag'd the orthodox Clergie, without being grievous to such other protestants as differ from them ; He has quieted our highland eruptions, without encouradging any opposition to Law, of which he told ws he would be alwise most exactly carefull, as being the common ty, as well as security, of King & people ; And he has both, by his example and discourse recomended so to ws Loyaltie to your Majesty, As our only nationall interest, and moderation to one another, as the only means to fortifie & unite ws, against the undermining designes of such as would infallibly make ws slaves as they did formerly, That wee hope these impressions shall not wear out whilst wee live, who have been so happy as to know him at this time, and for which happinesse wee can make yo^r

Majesty no other returne, save to assure yow, that with our hearts, our lives and our fortunes, Wee will manteane your sacred Majesty and yo^r Royall successors in the ordinary degrees of succession, according to their unalterable right of blood, which yow and they derive only from God Almighty,* whom you represent, and to wish that his Royall Highnes may meet every where, that satisfaction and tranquillitie that he has occasioned, and that kyndness & affection which his merit has raised in,

May it please yo^r sacred Majesty,

Yo^r most loyall, most duetifull, and most

Edinb. 17 Febr.
1680.

faithfull subjects and servants,

ROTHES CANCELL :

ATHOLL.	ALEX: S ^t AND:
DOUGALS.	ARGYLL.
MARISCHALL.	
MORRAY.	QUENSBERRY.
DUNDONALD.	GEO: MCKENZIE.
KINNAIRD.	CH: MAITLAND.
THO. MURRAY.	
GEO. MACKENZIE.	LINLITHGOW.
JA: DALRYMPLE.	WIGTOUNE.
THO. WALLACE.	AIRLIE.
JA: FOULIS.	CAITHNES.
J. DRUMMOND.	JO: EDINBURGEN.
T. WAUCHOPE.	A. RAMSAY.
G. GORDONE.	

* It is strange to find the signature of Argyll to this.

CXVII.—SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23245, f. 86.]

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

It may probable be that our letter this post will not please the E. of Shaftsburie, bot it pleas^d the Councell beyond any thing that I ever saw & realy his R. H. did extort it from us by irresistable expressions of his kyndnesse for Scotland, & in all his discourses to mee, your conduct & fidelity to the crown your parts & way mad a great part. His going away stopt the justice court but to morrow wee proceed to fyve forfeiturs. I hav examind on Lennox who is latly taken & is the first who has discovered to us the assasination designd against the toun Major. Hee confesses that Camron, Kea, & Blakale, thrie ministers, did in cold blood sit down & contriv the murther & that they had kill^d him if on Trumble had not receav^d all the stroaks upon his pistol. Tell the King uhat excellent men these ar. I beleev Lennox him selfe was on, bot hee confesses only that hee receav^d the sword from Kea to keep it unknown which sword hee having sold has discover^d him. If Trumble could be got to be another witnes hee might deserv a remission, but it is lyk Lennox will dy for concealing, especialy after proclamation is airt & part. I will be foret to continow Barganie's processe for a week longer becaus I have got in this night the names of other thrie witnesses.

I am sur I hav serv^d E. Argyle in all this affair of the highlands even against my own relations, nor did I as I am a christian know anything of the schem^a nor does it please mee yet. I presented a paper against it privatly to his R. H. uich displeasd him very much, bot I alwys tell my opinion & if it please not I serv others according to their inclination.

17 Feb. [1680].

^a This refers probably to the attempt to deprive Argyle of his hereditary jurisdictions in Scotland.

CXVIII.—SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23246, f. 1.]

MAY IT PLEASE YO^r GRACE,

The Justice court sitts so freq^ly that it were indiscretion to offer you the trouble of each dayes account. The Lord Bargenies process was called last Moonday but the process was not so ordored as y^t y^e Advocat would adventure to proceed: wee did give the 16 instant as y^e next dyett, at which y^e pannell repynd a part of y^e last week, & all the rest of this was imployed on the absents frō the King's host: wee have classed them thus—1. Such as nether went nor sent, nor had a lawfull excuse. 2. Such as went not, but sent, & have no sufficient excuse nor will purge y^e suspicion of ther principl by taking y^e declaration. 3. Such as went not, but sent; have no good excuse, & will take y^e declaration: the first is 2 years valued rent, y^e 2^d on, & if they tak y^e declaration which is y^e 3^d half a years rent.

Wee find so farr as wee have yett proceeded that y^e body of y^e gentry did give obedienc and very few have been absent without a favourable pretence, & I hope our proceedings, so strictly tho legally at this tyme, will deterre others from abiding from y^e host for y^e future. There hath nothing else occurred worthy y^r notice, within the provence of,

May it please y^r Grace,
Your most humble &
oblidged servant,
GEO: M^cKENZIE.

Ed^r
4 March,
1680.

CXIX.—THE HON. CHARLES MAITLAND TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23246, f. 5.]

Ed^r, 13 March, [1680].

MY DEAR LORD, MAY IT PLEASE YR GRACE,

* * * * *

This morning Lo: M^cDonnall cam to S^r W^m Sharp's Chamber and ten hiland men at his bak all armed with suords & durks & sume few pistols; the hilandmen stod in the door & without it Maclister, my Lord M^cDonele cam in & demanded his munny of his pention from S^r W^m ijn vere cours terms; S^r W^m told him he had a localetie for his pention y^t others had not. That what he wanted, beseids that he was not in cash now to give him bot he should pay him with the first & he thought in a short tyme, he said with oths y^t wold not serve; he most & he wold mack him pay presently or be God he wold not part with him, S^r W^m said he could not pay without munny & he was only to obay the the^{rie} bot not his lo: Lo: M^k said with othes no bestly fellou leik him should keep his munny from him. And with that after often repeted he put his hand to draw his suord. S^r W^m then told him y^e dar not for all this stir a hair of my head. As Lo: M^k offerd to his suord the hilan men maid a bussill after which some people cuming in his lo: went away with a great Corinoch. This Barbaratie being publik in a publik office S^r W^m complend to a Co^mittee of Councell of publik affairs then siting, who send for that Lord bot was not in the way; it is leik the Councell will notiffie it monday nixt. This is bot bad use maid of the Councels protection continouen to him & others till the 1 of May nixt, And if the King's servants be thus hectorred & threttened at the cross of Ed^r prey what may be expected ijn Knodijert & Glengarie. It wer fit his R Hignes know this. Lo: Bargenies trayall^a was continued [?] till tuesday nixt.

^a Burnet i., 514.

Ther hes ben great pains taken upon severall off the witness addressed against him by his frends & himself many off the witnes being sent for by him, & have spoken with him ; some witness that wer brought hier they have put out off the way, sume materiall ons have ben conveyd into ijrland for the tyme. ijt is thought this & other circumstances will necessarily occasion the dayet to be continoud to the first off ijune nixt. Bot that y^e may know all done yet as to the witness, & what is presound they will say ij have sent yw the tuo ijnlosed papers, & so my derest Lord Adew.

My most humble service to my Ladie Duches.

CXX.—THE DUKE OF YORK TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23246, f. 27.]

Windsor, April 24 [1680].

His Ma: will be at London on Monday, and I could wish you could be there at the same tyme that something may be considered as to the affairs of Scotland and resolutions taken that I thinke will admitt of no delay, for by letters I have received from L^d Murray and L: G: Daliel I find the feild conventicles encesse which generally have been the fore runners of a rebellion, therefore if your health will permitt you I should be glad to see you at Whithall on Monday in the afternone, at which tyme also S^r Guilbert Gerratt will be brought before the Councell, which is all I shall say now.

CXXI.—LIEUT.-GENERAL DALYELL TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23246, f. 45.]

MAY IT PLEIS YOUR GREIS,

Edeinbrugh, 4 June [1680].

The trust his Maiceste hes honorit me voith of his forsis in this kingdom forsis me to reyoun the acompt of the troupe bestaued on

the Erle of hume, uhois karith^a is so od that it uil not onle rander the troupeuslis to his Maieste bot thingis may probable fal out to ingadg tham against his Maiestes forsis, yai his Liutinant the M^r of Rois ken hardle stay on his imploiment nather is his quarter cliret^b nor his troupe pay it as is doin be the reist of the forsis. I kno the failt is myn that he is not trayit be a court of uar: this I shun it for the honor of his famile and leist it migh damp his loialte. Remiting it to your greis to taik uhat couers you pleis to precrayne [?] in it.

* * * * *

May it pleis your Greis
of ever mois humble servant,
T. DALYELL.

CXXII.—BISHOP PATERSON TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23246, f. 58.]

Ed^r June 17, 1680.

The yearlie value of that imposition the gift wherof is sought by the good Towne, is (according to my best information) 3000 lib sterl: and so the Kings estimat of it, is verie reasonable.

Ch: Murray and Capt: Dick, are to offer for the effair of orknay, yor Gr^sall have both their proposall's, and you may choise the better of the two.

I hope, you sall have a good account concerning the farmers of the customes, tho I onlie suspect the Chanc^e stay so long at Court to be upon some designe tending that way ere long your Gr^e sell know a perfit account of M^r Birsbains extract and heraldry.

I at a fair distance, enquired of the president, if ever anie warrant was given by him to E. Melvill or anie other, to offer to D. Hamilton etc^r that if he and some others might be preserved in their

^a Carriage.

^b Cleared.

places and offices, Hee wold part from my L. Duke of Lauderdale and those with them, he with most deep protestations and oaths denyed, that ever anie such offer wes made by him, or by his warrand. I, again, asked, if at the tyme of the King's bringing in E. Shaftsbury and his complices into the Council of England, he had advisd Sr Alex^r Bruce that it wes then the fitt tyme for E. Kinkardin to goe to court, and if that he wanted money, he wold find money, or furnish him—which he as deeplie denyed, and said, Sr Alex^r Bruce would not say anie such thing. He also told me, that at the meetings which he had with D. Monmouth, he asserted his unalterable firmnes to D. L. and convinced that Duke, that it wes not his interest to owne or to sett up D. Hamilton who would draw the grist of Scotland to his owne mill, and prove too hard for him, but that his true concern wes to owne D. Lauderdale, and to be a pupil and a disciple to him, whose interest could never clash with his etc^r, this I am oblidged to impart to yo^r Gr^e, that I may prove faithfull to you, and just to him, as I desire to be to all mankynd.

On tuesday I sustained a debate for ane hour in Council against the M. of athole, L. Tarbet and Sir Geo: Monro, the two later being most violent for a letter to be written to y^e King in pursuance of the districts. Nobodie seconded me, yet I gott it co^mmitted, and nobodie named me to be of the Co^mittee: this day a report wes brought in to the Council from that Comittee, with a letter to ye King readie drawne, giving ane account of the progress the council had made in the matter of the districts, and upon account of ye depredations and robberies emerging daylie in the highlands humblie praying his ma^jties further pleasure therein for securing the peace of that people, upon which arose verie warm reasonings, and the Marquess and Tarbet could carrie no more, but a letter to be sent to my L. Secretarie (tho they moved the letter might be directed to the King) informing his Gr^e that in obedience to the King's co^mmands, the Council had signed the co^missions, and taken suretie from all the persons concerned except the E. of Argyle which they

expected by the next returne. Much noise they made of a clause to be inserted into the letter representing the broken estate of the highlands, which they could not carrie, and whereat the Marquess and Tarbet were much incensed. Tarbet made also all the opposition imaginable to the assistance the King hath ordered the Council to give in favour of E. Cathnes for setting him in peaceable possession of his estate, alledging it wes to assist him in a tyme of peace with militarie force, and to proceed as with a comission of fire and sword against persons ney^r declared rebells nor intercoñuned, to which it was solidlie replied, that there wes no militarie force in this case, but a legall civill concurrence for executing the laws, against a violent and tumultuarie invasion of the subjects just rights and properties, as in the case of concurrence for executing a captioun against anie person obnoxious to that diligence. Indeed, discontented men creat much trouble needleslie, but it must be borne, till his Ma^{tie} in his owne tyme relieve his servants here, by a new coñmission of Council, wherein I am sure, it will be his R. Highnes interest, to have non entrusted who are justlie suspected to be for setting up ane interest for the D. of Monmouth—in all this, the L. Advocat hath behaved himself right and duetifull, and promiseth he will continue so to doe. The E. of Murray, God be blessed, is much better, and I hope he sall come hither shortlie; at which tyme yo^r Gr^e sall have a more full account of effairs, for now no exchequer sits, which retards all wards and other signatures.

My humble obedience to my deare Lord Duke

Most humblie Adiew.

CXXIII.—INFORMATION OF JOHN CRAIG REGARDING LORD BARGENY.^a

[23247, f. 7].

John Craeige indweler & tailor in Irvinge declares that on the

^a This is evidently one of the false depositions referred to by Burnet, i., 515.

16th of June or therby he heard Bedline read a letter directe from the Lord Barganye to the saed Bedlan, whaerin the saed Barganie desyred Bedlan to repaer to the western armie in great Hast, for thy ar shortly to joine, & see what condition thy ar in, & in the meane tym move & perswad all gentilmen & others to goe alonge uithe you & send me ane answer, & er longe I shall see you there my self. You may uithe the greater confidens invite the people to goe forward, it is not only thy that ar to countenans this bussiness but persons of greater qualety, that ue may be recoverd from the bondage that ue now lye under; uich letter Mongrinin red over many tymys in the declarants hearinge, & uich letter the declarant saw and kniw it to be subscriyfed by Barganye for he knows his subscription, haveinge seen many papers subscriyfed by him, & knows that this letter occasioned Mongrinin & many others to goe to that armye, as also declares that severals tould him that Barganye invited them out of his owne mouthe to goe ther, & that uas beliued by many in the cuntry. And the declarant saw some uho had rune out of the cuntry least Barganie should have caused them goe ther thy beinge his oune tennands: knows nothinge of Bargaines letter to Mr. Johne Welche bot by report.

sic sub: JOHN CRAIGE.

[In hand of Lord Murray].

CXXIV.—THE SECRET COMMITTEE TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23247, f. 22].

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

Ed^r, 13 agust, 1680.

Being now to part for some tyme, wee found it our ductie to offer some few particulars by your Gr^o to the King's Matie, which in our humble opinion doe much import his service and the peace of Scotland. In the first place, since wee find by papers seized

with Cameron, y^t the people are much influenced by rebels and fugitives, who live in Holland, to all their madd and rebellious practises, and y^t these rebels are as dangerous to y^e government, as if they kept their caballs here, in regard that Holland is the great mart and port of the trade and coñmerce of this kingdome, and where our merchands are in greatest hazard to be debauched from their dutie and loyaltie, that therefore his Ma^{tie} may be pleased, according to his treaties with the States Generall, to require them to banish out of their dominions and territories such fugitives, whose names wee here transmitt in a list to yo^r Gr^e, to be delivered to the King for this end, by this the Kingdom wilbe much releivd and its quiet verie much secured.

Next, it is our humble opinion, that for takeing of some of the late rebels from running into desperat courses, it wold contribut much to y^e peace, if his Ma^{tie} were graciouslie pleased to send a letter to y^e Council, bearing, that it being represented to his Ma^{tie}, that some of the late rebels, neither being heretors preachers nor ringleaders went out of the kingdom, when they might have gott the benefit of the indemnitie by taking the bond, and that other mean, ignorant and timorous persons have hitherto neglected to signe that bond, that therfor he grants power to his Council notwithstanding of the elapsing of the term prescribed in the indemnitie, and his other orders, to receive them yet to mercie upon their subscribing the same, and that his Ma^{tie} alloweth this power to receive such persons as they sall see cause to admitt to this favour, to continue to the first of March next.

In the thrid place, it is our humble opinion that in regard of the frequent complaints of the Liuetenant Generall that the officers of the forces doe not attend their charges, when the King's service requires their presence, that his Ma^{tie} would be pleased to coñmand all those officers who are in England to repair inñediatlie to their repive coñmands, as also, that if the troop under the comand of the E. of Home^a be disbanded of which the L. Generall hath made

^a See Letter 110.

manie grievous complaints, as being most insignificant, and making onlie 14. or fifteen men, his Ma^{tie} may not raise ane other in stead of it, that so the money for its pay may arise to the King, till their be need of levying of another.

This is all which occurs at this tyme to be offered to his Ma^{tie} which wee pray yo^r Gr^e may represent at your convenience with the most humble and most faithfull and most loyall obedience of

May it please yo^r Gr^e

Your Gr^{es} most faithful humble servants,

QUENSBERRY. ROTHES.

JO: EDINBURGEN: ARGYLL.

Endorsed :

The Secret Committee to his Grace,
13th August, 1680.

CXXV.—SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE TO THE DUCHESS OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23247, f. 23.]

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

I am very far from lessening the obligations I have to yow when I tell yow that I hav endeavourd to deserv them by having exposd all I am worth many tymes to serv your interest, & by having alwys servd your friends & opposd your enemies, nor did I ever deserv better than in that affaire of the towne of Ed^r, and really I was expecting my thanks for it when Sir W^m Sharpe shew mee your letter complaining bitterly of mee for having said yow got that money for the lat imposition, as to vchich I can only say that when M^r Rothead was to be pursud for giving it, & the parliament was to declar it a grivance (in the last of which no man was so violent as the E. of Argyle having publictly argud against it as a most illegall exaction) it is known that I prudently diverted both.

Bot tho I remember not that I said yow got the money, so I thought it not necessary to deny it was given to the Duk of Lauderdale, that being transacted publictly & by the King's comand, nor think I any man concernd whither your own husband gav yow that money or not ; nor was I ever angrie upon that account, so that such as abusd mee to yow in that particular shew much malice bot no wit, & yow should be angrie at them & not at mee, & by this yow may see how well humourd I am in not remembering such litle stories which shall never lessen my zeale for yow, and by measuring other stories of mee by this yow may find how innocent I am in all y^r concerns.

For

The Duchesse of Lauderdale Her Grace.

CXXVI.—THE SECRET COMMITTEE TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23247, f. 29.]

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GR^{CS},

Kirkaldy, Agust 21, 80.

Wee have omitted no opportunite to find out and discover anie correspondencies which may be twixt our disaffected and discontented people, and those of the same stamp in England, beleeving much of the disquiet and danger of his Maties Government here to have it's rise and encouragement from thence, in pursuance of this, wee find that one S^r James Ruskett and one . . . Persevall ane Lawyer in the temple, have been about a fortnight in Scotland, who as we are credible informed, have come hither upon no good designe, intending to influence a partie here to be subservient to the humors and actings of those who may prove turbulent and dangerous among the Commons, in y^e next session of the English parliament: these two persons have been in y^e west, and are now

returned to Edinburgh, we were readie to have seized them, and searched for papers with them, but that wee were affraid, that thereby a noise sould have been made, and a clamor raised, as if therby ane apparent injurie sould have been done to Members of Parliament, which might be prejudiciall to the King's interest and service in England, of which wee cannot be sufficientlie tender, but wee sall in the meane tyme be carefull to enquire of the persons to whom they have been directed, by whom entertained, with whom they have conversed, both in this and in the west countrey, that so wee may find out their correspondents, and designes; and if wee find cause, wee salbe sure to search them to find what wee can of their transactions with those strangers; meane tyme, wee earnestlie desire your Gr^e may acquaint the King and his R. Highnes with this, and to give us a caracer of these two men, one wherof is said to be a Member of the house of Coñons.

It is affirmed, that one speciall point they treat and discourse upon with our ill humor'd people here, is this new modell of the militia, for encourageing them to oppose the King and Councils resolution in it.

May it please yo^r Gr^e,

Your G^s: most humble and
faithfull Servands,

JO: EDINBURGEN. ROTHES.

CXXVII.—THE SECRET COUNCIL TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23247, f. 38.]

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

Ed^r. Sept^r. 4, 1680.

The two English gentlemen wee formerlie wrote of, are now returned to England by Carlile road; wee had reason to suspect them, when wee observed their converse here to be mostlie with

disaffected persons, and wee shall endeavor to trace them in ye west, to find out their correspondencies there, and shalbe carefull to make all possible discoverie thereof.

Wee have made it our work on wednesday and thursday last, with the most serious application to weigh and consider the new modell of the militia, and to carrie it on by the most effectuall methods; and after a distinct view of the state of the severall shyres, wee doe expect a ductifull compliance with the King's comānds from the farr greater part of them, viz. Midlothian, West Lothian, Fife, Perth, Dumfries, Angus, Merns, Aberdeen, baniff, Murray, Ross, Cathnes, suderland, orkney, boot, peebles, wigton, and Kirkudbright. As for the shires of Stirling and Haddington, Mers and Roxburgh, the two former having hitherto declined, and the latter two delayed their obedience to the Council's orders, your Gr^e will perceive the method of our procedurs with them, by the minuts of Council which the Clerks will transmitt. The punishment of contempt of and disobedience to the legall comānds of King and Council being arbitrarie, the Council hath desired to know his Ma^{ties} pleasure, how to punish the contemners and disobedient in this instanc, and if his Ma^{tie} sall remitt the kind and manner of their punishment to the Council wee shall take care to see it proportion'd to the offence: as for the shires of Clidsdale, Aire, Renfrew, and others in the west, nothing can be done till his Ma^{ties} wilbe knowne, concerning the conversion of their foot into horse; but how farr it may be safe to trust these disaffected places with armes, if the King sould need them, we cannot say.

One great difficultie wee have often pondered, in this new modell, is, how the officers may be payed, wthout which it will prove utterlie ineffectuall; and after our most serious thoughts, we can find no fond for it, save the moneys by which the two highland companies are payed; and therfor thes companies being now of no use nor signification for his Ma^{ties} service, it is our humble opinion, they be disbanded, and their pay applied to the maintenance of these officers, w^{ch} wee desire yo^r Gr^e may be pleased to signifie to the King.

And now that wee have done what possible wee can, by the advice of all the lawyers at Council board, to satisfie all manner of scruples and objections, which have been moved against the legalitie of this new modell, so that nothing appears against Law in it; in case anie upon pretence of it's illegalitie shall raise clamor here, to alienat the affections of the people from the King and his Government, or sall offer to goe to England upon pretence of complaining of it to his Ma^{tie}, to creat him unjust trouble, and to raise unnecessarie noise in England, in this present conjuncture, wee are earnestlie desirous to know his Ma^{ties} pleasure how wee are to proceed against anie such of his subjects here, of what degree or qualitie so ever they bee, who shall so unseasonable as wele as unjustlie disturb his Ma^{ties} affairs, and the tranquillitie of his kindoms, and if wee are not to putt our instructions in execution against them.

Wee offered our thoughts to your Gr^e: in our letter of the 13th August, concerning some further tyme, to be allowed, if his Ma^{tie} sall think it fitt, to some of the rebels for signing the bond; and concerning the Earle of Humes troop, if it salbe distanded; as also our desires for sending home these officers who are in England to their respective commands, as to all which wee wait his Ma^{ties} answer, by your Gr^e at your conveniencie. Wee ever are,

May it please yo^r Gr^e,

Your G^s most humble and

faithfull servands,

ROTHES.

QUENSBERRY.

Jo: EDINBURGEN.

To day according to his Ma^{ties} instructions, the stores and amunition in the Castle salbe surveyd.

Endorsed:

The Secret Committee to his Grace,

4th Septem^r, 1680.

CXXVIII.—THOMAS MURRAY TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23247, f. 40.]

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GR^e,Ed^r, 18 Sept^r, 1680.

here I send the copie of that villanous and Blasphemous paper, I mentioned in my last to y^e Earle of Murray; ane double of it wes battered, upon the weighhouse, but wes torn in pieces, in pulling it of; the originall found in the Parliaⁿ closs I cause keepe, so that no double salbe given of it to anie alive, till I know your Gr^r thoughts about it, it is a copie of that treasonable and sacrilegious sentence pronuⁿced last lords day by Mr Donald Cargill in a numerous field conventicle at the Torwood, where manie were in armes^a; and your Gr: wes forgotten by him in the fornoon, but uncanonicallie he brought you up in the afternoon, and after ane scurrilous apologie for his omission, he proceeded with his blunt thunder against you: this spirit of profannes, and blood hath here arrived to the height of Dementation and maddnes; and is ane verie angrie dispensation of gods judgement, upon that ungodlie and ungovernable tribe; I pray God, may convince them of their maddnes, and preserve us from their crueltie and violence. I beleve this lyne may find your Gr^e at the Bath, where I pray God, you may prosper in your health, that you may be preserved for manie happie years for the service of your King, and of the poor church, to y^e comfort of

May it Please yo^r Gr^e,Your G^s most humble and

Most faithfull servand,

JO: EDINBURGEN.

Your Gr^e will see the learning of the curser while he calls S. Ambrose, Bishop of Lyons--I have nothing else to say by this post, that is new.

^a Wodrow iii. p. 225.

CXXIX.—THOMAS MURRAY TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23247, f. 46.]

MAY IT PLEAS YOUR GRACE,

I was in the countrey when I received your comands, and did immediatlie come heir, and having called for your Gr: patent as Secretary, and your last exoneration in the yeir 1678, I did take them both to Sir George Lockhart, and comunicat to him your Gr: letter and shew those twa papers and desyred his advyse for drawing ane patent in favors of the Earle of Morray to be sole secretary of State to his Ma^{tie} for the kingdome of Scotland. He did approve your Gr: patent so that the same is transcryved with such alterations as was signified in your letter, Bot he did not approve y^e draught of your last exoneration, And hes drawn ane full & ample exoneration and discharge to your Gr: of all your actings omissions and comissions in the said office and in all & everie of the other offices and stations wherin your Gr: was entrusted by his Ma^{tie}; your Gr: may be pleased to receave both these papers with a letter from Sir George Lockart. I acquainted my lord chancellour with what I had in comand from your Gr: His Gr: told me he had receaved ane account yrof and professed great satisfaction in his Ma^{ties} choice, seing it is your Gr: pleasure upon weightie considerations to demitt your office of Secretary. There is none y^t could have succeded to that place will be more acceptable to your freinds, and I am sure to all honest men, The Earle of Morray being ane person of that honor integritie and of those abilities for exercing that office that he is above all exception. I forbear to give your Gr: surder trouble bot only presumes to say that whill I breath I am

May it pleas your Gr:

Your Gr: most faithfull &
most devoted Servant,

THO: MURRAY.

CXXX.—THE SCOTCH BISHOPS TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23247, f. 51.]

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

Edb. 6 No. 1680.

The notice of your G^s dimission of your office of sole Secretarie of State for this kingdom (in which you have with so great prudence, fortitude and faithfullness served your Royall Master, your cuntry and this church) oblidge us to express as our great concernment about it, so to pay our most heartie and duetiefull acknowledgements to your Ge^e for the manie great instances of your eminent good offices done to this poor afflicted Church, and your zealous endeavours upon all occasions to preserve it, against the malice, designes, and power of its adversaries ; and to releve it from the sadd impressions mad upon it, and breaches in it, by the most unreasonable shism, that ever appeared in the Christian world ; that so it might continue a firm pillar to support the reformed Religion, & true Loyaltie to our soveragne Lord the King, its true nurseing father : for all these eminent and religious appearances and actings of your Gr^e for our Religion, our Order, and our Church, as wee offer to your Gr^e our most humble and heartie thanks, so sall wee offer unto God (the great and munificent Rewarder of the true friends of his Church) our most fervent Prayers for yo^r G^s honor, interest, and Glorie in both worlds.

Wee must continue humble suiters to your G^{cs} still to preserve your wonted kyndnes, care and zeale for us, who never more needed your G^{es} powerfull assistance, then at this tyme, when the enemies of our Church are so warm in their expectations, and bussie in their endeavors to subvert and raze our jerusalem even to the ground ; that thereby they may, with our religion, overturn and destroy our King and his monarchie at once. Itt doth not a litle releve and comfort us, that since your Ge^e hath (for your owne solid and wise reasons in which it becomes us to acquiesce) been pleased to relin-

quish, you have prevailed with the King to provyd you so worthie a successor in that great trust and office, as is the E. of Murray, from whose great worth, firm loyaltie, solid wisdom, and conscientious owning of the Church, wee cannot but assure ourselvs of the same kyndnes and protection, wee enjoyed under yo^r G^s: most benigne influence and ministrie: that wee may add no more to yo^r G^s: trouble, wee sall onlie assure, that as non can be more sensible of your G^s: multiplied goodness and favors, so non salbe more zealous to advance your interest, and to pray for yo^r prosperitie, long life, and eternall happines, then,

May it please your Grace,

Your Gr^{es}: most humble and

most faithfull servants,

JO: EDINBURGEN:

ALEX: S^r. AND:

AND: CATHANEN:

JA: GALLOVIDIEN:

ARTH: GLASCUEN:

CXXXI.—THE BISHOP OF EDINBURGH TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23247, f. 60.]

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GR^{ce}.

Ed^r Dec. 7, 1680.

Amongst some papers seized in M^{rs} Simpson's house in this towne I found the inclosed letters, whereof the one is from M^{rs} Simpson to her sone, directed to him by a borrowed name, viz. Jamesone; and the other is from him to his mother in return to her's, both written this year: the reason I send them to your Gr^{ce} is, that by them I find this Mr. Richard Simpson the sone is in the E. of Radnor's familie, or with my lord Bodmin his sone; which in my humble opinion, were fitt to be discovered to his lop: for this Simpson's mother is the relict of the noted M^r James Simpson some

tyme minister of Airth:^a and is a woman who hath constantlie corresponded with Mr Browne, Mr Mequaird, etc. and with Haxton and the other Murtherers of the late Primate, and hath sent intelligence to all the Rebels, Cameron, Cargill &c of the most pernicious stamp; and therfor it seemeth not safe, that the sone of such a mother sould be entrusted or continue in y^e familie of so great and worthie a person as is the Earle of Radnor. Your Gr^e owned such a just frendship to that Earle, when I had the honor to wait on your Gre/ last in England, that I thought my self bound, to acquaint you Gr^e with this effair, that as you see reason, your Gr^e may be pleased to intimat this to his lop: for no bodie knows anie thing of these letters, save my self alone, Your Gr^e will pardon this trouble from

May it please your Gr^e

Your G^a most humble and most faithfull servand,

JO: EDINBURGEN:

Wee miss your Gr^e exceedingly here at this season. God preserve you.

CXXXII.—MRS. SIMPSON TO RICHARD SIMPSON.

[23247, f. 62.]

May 8, —80.

Richard yee would have heard from me er now but about a month agoe I went out to Borrowstouness; severalls ther & such as came to visit me from airth inquires kyndly for yow & will be glad to hear of your being well, but whither they be miscaryed or not ther is no letters com from yow since, I hear the yonge man Mr Robertson w^t whom we wrot is sick, for w^e I am sorry. I lay it upon you to visit him on my account & remember me kyndly to

^a See Wodrow i. 80. He was imprisoned in 1660 without any cause shown, and banished without trial.

him; the other youth houston whom upon so short acquaint[ance] I recomended to yours. I must tell you I shall know them better. I say so much for again for he hes given no satisfaction but the contrar to our dearest freinds in Holland. I am only sorry y^t I menti[on]ed him in a lyn I wrot w^t him to my lady S^t Johns, y^r for make your best use of this, & if ye can get me an account how y^t lady is I expect it; & I desire you again to visit her upon my account & tak your own way to drop a word if that pson hath given her my letter lest she think I am become duitied; or changed my pretious principls in taking so much notice of one so emptie & unworthy. The lord is about to purge his church of such ministers & professours & will more & more discover them; writ to me q^t is tho^t by the most inteligent of the french^a disign. All here y^t understand think they & the papists at home will be our scourge in a sader way than ever bretane saw & our departing from the lord & affronts don to him by compliance w^t hes blasphemus oposers speaks no less, I can doe you no oy^r or no greater kyndness my dear child than bege your lerning to hyd w^t the Lord from the sin & wrath of this day of vengeance w^c shall certainly fall on many that are not looking for it. Now this lyn w^t severall hinderences hath lyen by me but your worthy cusin M^{rs} Binnie hath not been negligent to inquire att the post hous for letters from yow; so finding non we must think yee are sick or some heavie thinge or other hes hinderd your writing, if ye find the be miscaryed faill not to derect your letter to M^{rs} Hanah Binnie to be sent to Rob^t Simson^a widow^a shop on the north sid of the cross; for she is now flited frō the south: I gave yow some hint why yee should not drectly name me in your drecations. Your cusin stays w^t me & most acceptabl to me, all .of us would be glad we m^t have a visit of yow before the deludge break out & whill your mother is yett alive, faill not to writ your receipt of this letter & ane ans of all I have said as perticulerly as yee can & fear not your freedom in any news y^t are goeing ther; for we will be tender of that as our lyves; the publick is more & more dear to me, & as ye use freedom w^t us

yee shall know how it is w^t the pretious & persecuted Remnant here, for present I will not hyd it from yow ther is wonderfull kyndnes from the Lord shoven to the poorer sort of the Land ; for all that is come or may be feared (& I charge yow to tell it my Lady S^t John^s) they in face of all hazerd follow the Lord Jesus in the duetie of the day, mourning as it is in Ezkell 7, 16, on the mountains in publick fasts for that w^c is beyond them now to help & count not their lives to dear for such a deutie: your sisters are very well & very comfortabl to me ; let us know w^t out faill how ye are & q^t hath keep you so long from writing ; I know so soun as yee can yee intend some token for them, & we wilbe far from be burdensom to you if yee send any thing now lett be a peice of blak flourd gaes to be a peticot for barbara, for she hath severall li^t culler peticots it wilbe fit to wear above them ; M^r Robison will get it hom if ye cannot get it soun doe not troubl your self for this is the season it is fittest to wear it ; for your broy^r & acquaintine in that countrie I hear litl of them but what I hear is not very light to many here q^o desire to cleave to the pretious old principls of the church of scotland, but glory to the Lord q^o ever leave christ alon ; he is not alon the father is w^t him, John 16, 32 ; he will yet be great in his intrests & remnant in Scotland tho it should be through fyr, it will be wellecom & lyk himself ; Hyd yow w^t him in tym & cry for speciall grace to doe so: & for a through fit of your need of such *ane absolut saviour*. I covet to converse w^t yow about your soul & these things belonging to your everlasting peac, here & hereafter, it wilbe among my greatest perticuller Joys upon earth to see or know of the Lord's effectuall delivering yow from the sin^s & case for w^c now the Lord contends w^t these Lands his li^t power & grace can only doe it; in Jesus christ one & all shall quicklie see their need ; alas how late shall it be to . . . the hipocrit & the oppressour shall soun know w^t whom they contend & drink the dregs of the cup that hes been so long at the head of the serious seeker^s of the lord's face ; it hes been a blissed cup to many of this Land who would not have wanted the fellowship of

christ's suffering^s in it for all the great & good thing^s in this world. Beleeve not yee every report enimies or mistaken freind sends abroad of our matter^s. God q^o will sweep away the refuge of ly^s will lett the nation^s about know & read what he hes don is doeing & will doe for Scotland; & his poor follower^s & witnesses sall say *This our God we have waited for Him.*

Adew my dear.

Your cusin & sister^s are pasionatly desirous to see yow & oft pleasing themselves y^t seing it will be so litl charges & pains to com by sea that yee will also be desirous of it & onc try it, but on the oy^r hand seing ye have been so oft written to sinc we had a letter from yow they are affray^{ed} ye be sick.

For

M^r Richard Jamison in M^r Hindleston^s in James Streat near S^t James^s, London.

Mem : by Bp. Paterson,

his true name is Sympson.

CXXXIII.—RICHARD SIMPSON TO MRS. SIMPSON.

[23247, f. 64.]

St. James^s Jully y^e 10th 80.

The best excuse I can make for my not writing this long time, is There was little news, and I was sometimes either ill or very busied, but besides I did apprehend you gave me leave to write to my sister in stead of writing to your selfe; now I hope she will pardon me if I did not observe my times so punctually with her as I did a while with you. But if you find either impertinence or vanity in the excuse, I heartily renounce it, and humbly beg your pardon for my fault.

They begin again with the D. of York drawing up informations and indictments ag^t him; what may be the consequence, tho not

known, is shrewdly guessd at. The King wants money, the people want a parliament. The late news from Scotland did startle people here, 'twas said they were up in arms again, &c. pray let me know how things are with you, The plott is allmost buried in oblivion, and in the grave of *Reformed dissensions*, The Lords in the tower^a are like to ly there till the resurrection, and the people's mouths are stopt by the prorogations of y^e parliament. Let the popish Lords be try'd was much of their cry, but truly the prevalency of the popish interest has been a grievous tryal to these nations, and is like to produce the most tragicall effects, if God in his mercy does not prevent them.

I have not yet got money of my L^d . . . [Bodmin *erased*], but I intend shortly to leave the family if they will not come to some certainty about my salary, I expect dayly a reconciliation betwixt my L^d Radnor and his son. Pray give my love and humble service to my sisters and all friends.

[*Endorsed by Bp. Paterson.*]

Simpson letter which concerneth L. Radnor.

CXXXIV.—SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE TO THE DUCHESS OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23247, f. 66.]

MAY IT PLEASE Y^r GRACE,

I find by all uhu com from London how much I am oblidg^d to your Grace's favour for which I thought it my dutie to return yow my most humble thanks & to assure yow of my service & zeale upon all occasions; Having nothing to ask bot that your G. will be pleasd to beleev more uhat yow see mee doe than uhat my enimies say, & I dare swear that uhat is said of mee to yow is said upon design to weaken your interest & ryses at first from your enimies. Bot I contemne tatls & I am sure yow ar juster than to encourage

^a The Roman Catholic peers.

them. It is said that the E. of Caithnes thinks mee not so earnest for him & E. Argyle as I should be & that hee has said so to your G., bot if it be, hee wrongs mee, for your friends knew the contrarie & realie I hav don them mor service than all the Councell & it is very unjust to blame mee for Tarbat. I overact my part for them & that makes Caithnes beleev that I should refuse nothing. I need only say that as the present prospect of publict affairs ly under my view it is both your interest & myn to assist one another for I possiblie know mor than is fit to be told at this tyme Bot however the world reele I am resolvd to serve faithfullie the Duk of Lauderdale & to let the world see that I am not unmyndfull of my duti to your G. to uhom I am reallic

A most humbl servant,

GEO. MACKENZIE.

For the Duchesse of Lauderdale Her Grace

[N.B.—Undated, but towards the end of 1680.]

CXXXV.—SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE TO THE DUCHESS OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23247, f. 68.]

MAY IT PLEASE Y^r G.

You blam^d mee very undeservedly for the last transaction the toun mad; for though I brought them over to serv the Duk of Lauderdale when both your friends gave it over, yet I knew nothing further of that affair then that they designd to oblige the Duk of Lauderdale; nor had I ever on shilling in it sav ten dollers for drawing their bill & yet I never shall hav money from them nor any else sav uhat I get from the king by the Duk of Lauderdale nor value I money if I get kyndnesse & belovd for a faithfull & frank friend. I did speak to them befor to put som small mark of

their acknowledgement upon your G.^a & now Mr Rockhead is going up to attend yow with new propositions & I beleev will follow your advyse as I think all honest men heer should doé and I assur yow I will if yow let mee [have] your comands by my Lord Register with uhom I am in a most strict league. I must beg your pardon to desyr y^t your G will burn my letters for I was once strangely surprysd by a letter of myn that was lost at London.

For the Duchesse of Lauderdale Her Grace.

[*N.B.—Undated, but about the end of 1680.*]

CXXXVI.—SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23242, f. 6.]

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

Though I had beene very culpabl if I had not taken all the pains I could wpon an affaire of so greate importance, yet I deserve no thanks for serving faithfully a persone to whom I am so much oblidge and in whose safety my owne is necessarily involved. I have spent much tyme this vacance in continowing my historie and in polishing what I had formerly written, haveing by your Graces superintencie, that sinc I came last to Scotland yowr correcting what I sometymes presented to yow has improved considerably my former style, nor cowl I make yow a juster returne then by transmitting to posterietie a faithfull accompt of yowr ministeric. but I want yet a true dowbl of your papers against E. Middleton, and copies of the first letter the K wrott to yow in 1674^b and of that received from his Majestie in July last. all which I will, if yowr grace please, expect with the first conveniencie. Some severe

^a See p. 204 for a former instance of the Duchess's enrichment of herself.

^b Possibly that of Jan. 14, p. 22 of the present volume.

criticks assure me I have exceeded in these papers any thing I ever did formerly.

Your Grace has already left me nothing to seeke, save the continuance of what yow have already procured for me, and therefor sinc the malice of my eniemies has growen so much by the last Interloquitur, and I forsee, that the employments, which I will be putt upon shortly, will expose me as much as can be, I doe embrace the offer your grace makes me in your last, for remembering yow (now that all your greate affaires are over) of the promise yow made me, of procureing a letter from the King for my future securitie.

I have sent a rude drawght of it, to be altered as yowr Grace pleaseth. Nor desyre I that any should know that I have it, albeit it be procured, nor sall any man know that I have sowght it. The reasone why I desyre to be tryed befor the King is, because if owr adversaries get the nomination at any tyme of my judges, I will have my ears declared horns. And the Advocat is in a singular conditione because all whom he pursues turne his adversaries, and if I survive your grace nothing less can secure me, and if I be secure, I find that I cowlde easiely serve all yowr other friends, for without a King's advocat who will be cordially for them, they will be abl to doe litle harme, and the K: may still remoove me as he pleaseth after I am heard, which is most just only I trust to his justice more then any mans; Your Grace may alter it in whole or in part for I trust your iudgment more then my owne.

Directed For his Grace,

The Duke of Lauderdale.

[*A copy of a letter from Sir Geo. Mackenzie?*]

Circ. 1680-81.

CXXXVII.—

[23248, f. 8.]

Pag. 1, l. 3, after (warres) ad (and broiles) or some more fit word.

l. 10, for (exhausted) put (molested).

*l. ult. for (but the sinnes—kingdomes with) put (both kingdomes were involved in more bloody, &c.)

p. 2*, l. 21, for (some few—his maicstie) put (in the year ——— King Charles published, &c.)

l. 23, for (revokation) put (revocation) & so elsewhere.

p. 5, l. 4. It were fit to insert the rates of Tithes, and what the Annuity was.

l. 12. It were not amiss to name the promoters of these changes.

l. 17, for (gave them from) put (made the).

l. 18, after (lands) ad (upon them).

l. 24, for (poverty) put (smallness).

p. 6, l. 23, dele (at any time).

p. 7, l. 8, for (of) put (relating to).

p. 8*, l. 1, after (years) ad (to be taken off the 8), &c.

p. 10, l. 4, after (was) ad (still). It were not amiss to insert the paper itself verbatim.

l. pen. dele (at his tryall).

p. 11*, l. 2, after (Edinburgh) ad (which was that).

l. 8. The mentioning Archb. Laud, this is not unfit though it be frank.

l. 18. Quere, if the B. of Brechin possese that Abbay now.

l. 20. It were fit to mention the time of the King's return into England.

- p. 12, l. 6, for (He) put (Nachton).
 l. 8, after (ingratiate) ad (himself).
 l. 9, after (Archb.) ad (of St. Andrews).
 l. 10, for (y^e Archb. of St. And.) put (him).
 l. 11, the frankness is good.
- p. 13, l. 9, the procurer may be named.
- p. 20, l. 11. This section is very sharp against the Bishops, but a good aggravation of the dissatisfactions.
- p. 39, l. 8. There is mention of crimes laid to the charge of the Bishops that are no where spoken of before, but is set down pag. 97.
- p. 40, l. 21, dele (as if not).
- p. 73, l. 18, after (Court) ad (the day of the Marquis's arrivall there).
- p. 76, l. 17. Consider whether it be true E. Argile's titles can be instructed.
 l. antep. dele (more).
- p. 77, l. 17, for (who were) put (the assemblies being, &c.)
- p. 86, l. 22, for (make their adress) put (repair).
 l. 25, for (will) put (would).
- p. 96, l. 13. Change or explain the words (awardable) & (award) in the next line.
 l. 22, after (were) ad (to be).
- p. 124, l. 7, for (probation led) put (proofes made out).
- p. 143, l. 12. It is not told by what authority those comissions were given.
- p. 148, l. 16. It were fit to enumerate the Regiments & Troopes and name those that comanded them.

Mem.—The notes are possibly on a MS. of Burnet's "History of his own Times." At first sight it was conjectured that they were on Mackenzie's Memoirs (see last letter). But there is nothing in the memoirs to which they can apply, and they are moreover in the handwriting of Robert Moray. They should probably be placed several years earlier than 1680.

CXXXVIII.—THE DUKE OF YORK TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23248, f. 14].

Edinburgh, June 23 [1681].

Since his Ma: has been pleased to name me for his Commissioner for the holding of this Parliament here, I do all I can to enforme my self of what is the duty of that place, and what has been done by you and others that have had that character before me, and because you have had it severall tymes I desire you would informe me of some things concerning it, and more particularly concerning the privat instructions and what they use to be, and what has been the usual manner of chusing another president, in case at any tyme the Chanceler should be indisposed, and so could not attend the service, and indeed that you would give me your advice upon this whole affaire, that after I heare from you I may be the better enabled to propose a draft of the privat instructions to his Ma: the counsell has satt so long that I have not tyme to say more, but from others you will know what passes here, I hope you have found benefitt by your journny to the Bathe, and be assured you shall always find me truly your freind.

CXXXIX.—THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE TO THE DUKE OF
YORK.

[23248, f. 16.]

So soone as I receved yo^r R. H. letter of the 23 of June I sent for my horses to carie me home, where I hope to be on friday nixt & upon Sunday following I intend to wait on his Maj^{tie} to the end I may informe my self of all the steps relating to the calling of this parl^t. In all the sessions I had the honour to serv his Maj^{tie} in that

high office, all the preparations were made. The elections for shires & Burroughs secured, all the methods laid doune & a schem drawn before the meeting of the parl^t. The same course I tooke before the calling of the last convention w^{ch} did inable me to give more then a guess what wold be the succes. But I hope yo^r R. H. shall not neid such precautions seing it may in reason be thought impossible there should be any opposition made or stormes raised against such things as yow shall in yo^r wisdome propose. And as to all other methods w^{ch} I thought most for the King's service, the persons I did most advise with, are now with yow, And the D. of Rothes can better instruct them then I can doe at so great a distance He having been so long in that place. And the assistance I did at first give him (being by the Kings cōmand sent to doe it) was the same w^{ch} I laid doune for my owne rule when I stirred in that office So that I make no doubt yo^r H. wilbe informed of all materiall things, and the rest cañot be made use of, but are to alter as there shall fall out occasion, It being impossible to foresee every particular may be offered w^{ch} I found by experience in every session.

But as to that materiall particular w^{ch} yo^r R. H. is pleasd to advise wth me about, I must confes it never did occurre to me, in all the time of my Coñision w^{ch} made it not thoght of: so I humbly offer it to yo^r R. H. to propose it to those who are skilled in our law that they may see if there hath been a president for it in any of our former parl^{ts}. And in case there hath not, that they will give under their hands their opinion and send it up to the Secretary to shew it to his Maj^{ty}, and I shall be sure to attend and to offer the best advice I can give; this is the way I did ever use in things that were new & obscure & this I take to be the best way for yo^r R. H. And seing you are pleasd to cōmand me, I shalbe sure to discourse with his Maj^{ty} on these matters, and the advice I shall offer in every circumstance shalbe honest & faithfull althogh accompanied with many weaknesses yet not altogether such as are malitiously said of me. These waters have very well agreed with me, & if the health I have received by God's good car inable me to be more

constant in my attendance upon his Maj^{tie} & by it in any measure more significant in his service, or to yo^r R. H., it is a blessing greater then I could expect: Having for these few yeeres past had as meane an opinion of my owne abilities as it is possible for any other to have, and upon that account onely did I desire leave to retire As I doe now beg yo^r pardon most humbly for all the fatigue of this letter.

Bath, 4 Julij.

Endorsed—Copic of my answer, 4th July 81.

CXL.—SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE TO THE EARL OF MORAY.

[23248, f. 18.]

MY LORD,

The Duk did in the artics declar y^t hee wold not suffer that processe to goe on ags^t E. Argyle,^a & that upon the first principle that he wold neither suffer the King's servants nor his gifts & patents to be call^d in question befor the parl^t, & this day the processe at the E. of Cathnes instance ags^t the E. Bradalban is sent back to the Councell from the Artics, which is a great kyndnesse to Argyle & Bradalhan, & yet they ar not pleasd, bot I hop yow will be so just as to think I hav don all I could in both. Great pains has been taken ags^t Mr. James Rothead & to mak Sir Andrew Ramsay provest, bot I hop both these designs shall be disapointed.

For

The E. of Moray,
Sole Secretary for Scotland.

[n. d. but about the middle of 1681.]

^a See p. 195.

CXLI.—RICHARD MAITLAND^a TO THE DUKE OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23249, f. 12].

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

I sent your book P. Martyr to your Lodging to be sent to you. I delayed wreeting to your Grace till I should gett his R. H. answer as to my father's jurnay hither which I had not till yester night. I went to Windsor monday morning last, I was there a litle after 7. Just as I came to the Castle gate I mett the Duke going a stag hunting. I made what haist back again to London I could to dispatch my man Benjamin to Scotland, which I did by eight a clock at night. I ordred him to ride night and day as hard as he could and not to stay above 12 houers in Ed^r so that I expect him back sunday nixt in the evening or monday at furthest. Tewesday last I went back again to Windsor, and was att the Duke's rising. I^desyred leave to speake with his R. H., which he granted as soon as he should be drest, but just as that was there came an expresse to tell the Duchesse was broght to bed that morning of a daughter, so he putt on his boots and went away immediatly. Yesterday morning I waited upon the Duke again at St. James's; he appoynted me to come to him after dinner, which I did, and stayed till the chyld was christened and 4 houers after befor I could speake with his R. H. I spoke very fully and freely, but my answer was much the same I had befor, that till the report came he could not be positive, but as soon as he had seen it he wold call me, so till that be I am tyed by the foot. Yesternight E. Perth came and was at Court. L. Register will be here this night, for he wearied posting and tooke the Yorke coach att Grantham, it seemes he doth not ride so well as when he broght up the billiting affaire; ^b I wish he may have as good successe in this

^a Son of Charles Maitland, of Haltoun.

^b See vol. i. p. 115.

ambassade. The Duke is gone a hunting and will be back tomorrow. My father wrights from Scotland that he having been persewed by the Brewers of Ed^r for taking mony from the Taxe men of the Excyse, and that affaire having been fully tryed and examined before the Councell, he was by a vote of Councell declared to be innocent, and being called in with the Take^men S. W. Binning and Barnton to receave sentence, they were of a sudden remooved till the Councell should further consider the matter. Then E: Perth, E: Tweedale, and L: G: Drummond pressed on after aneother the bussines might be better considered and the witnesses reexamined and more witnesses called ; but Lord Chancellor said that was unjust and against Law, and that never the like was heard befor that The Thes^r deputt, being one of there number and ane officer of state, should be denyed that Justice which could not be refused to a beggar. The Lord Advocat seconded this, so they were called in again and my father solely absolved, as also the Brewars for persewing him, as having reasonable grounds to doe what they did. S. W. Binning was fined in 500 lib sterling, Barnton in two thousand lib scots for having offered mony to my father, beseids paying to the King the 14,000 marks scots they had offered to Him. I have told your Grace true matter of fact ; I will make no observations for fear of Leesing making till I have the honor to wait upon yow which I hope to doe some tyme nixt week ; in the mean tyme I shall lett your grace know what passeth. I pray God almighty preserve yow and send your drinking the waters the earnest wished for successe of

May it pleas your Grace,

Your most humble most obedient

and faithfull servant,

R. MAITLAND.

Westminster, 17 Aug: 1682.

For

The Duke of Lauderdale,

His Grace,

at-Tunbridge Welles.

CXLII.—RICHARD MAITLAND TO THE DUCHESS OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23249, f. 14.]

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

I need not repeat what I have said to my Lord Duke. I sent my man to Scotland monday last in the evening ; by him I wrote fully to my father of all that had passed at Ham ; I gave him a true andd sincere account of your Graces great keindnes both to him and me, as also of my Lord Duke's care of him and me both, with the true sence I have of my Lord Duke and your Grace's undeserved favours to us both, which I am sure he will be most sensible off and I doubt not but he will make a returne sutable to so exterordinary keindnesse. Yesterday afternoon I saw the Duke's young daughter christned Charlotte Mary by the Bishop of London in the nursery at St. Jameses. D. Ormond was godfather, C: Arrundell and C: Clarendon the two godmothers; the Duke was present and the Duchesse of Modena. The King came to Toune in the morning to see the Duchesse, and dynd with the Duke at D. Ormond's lodging, and went away back to Windsor immediatly after dinner. I have seen L. Glendoig and L. Hercus, they have given me a further account of your Graces keindnes to me for which I returne you my most humble and hearty thanks: yow shall see how much I shall endeavor to deserve all your favours. I earnestly begg that according to the scots proverbe bygons may be bygons and faire play in tyme to come and that your Grace wold be so keind as to bury in oblivion never more to be spoken off all my past faults, for I cannot deny I have not always caried my self as I ought to have done towards your Grace. Yow was pleased to promise yow wold make me your factor in scotland, it is ane employment I shall be very prood off, and I promise sincerely to be faithfull to yow even in my thoughts. I was told by one yesternight that he had told M^r D. Hay what my Lord

Duke and your Grace had done for me ; he said he had heard of it but did not att first beleeve it, but he said L. Glendoig and L. Hercus who was my new allay had done that, but the other told him your Graces was not tutored at that rate, and that all yow had done was off your selves, at which he looked very grave. I am as I have great reason to be in all sincerity, may it please your Grace,

Your most humble most obedient
and faithfull servant,
R. MAITLAND.

For

The Duchesse of Lauderdale Her Grace at Tunbridge Welles.

[n. d. but 17-20 Aug. 1682.]

CXLIII.—THE BISHOP OF EDINBURGH TO THE DUCHESS OF
LAUDERDALE.

[23249, f. 31.]

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GR^o,

Edb^r. March 22. 83.

E. Lauderdale hath determined to burie the corps of y^o great Duke of Lauderdale^a at Haddington, and no perswasion will divert him from his resolution in that mattere, his owne letter to your Gr^o will enough convince yow of his positivenes therein, but alas poor Gentleman, he and his familie wilbe absolutely ruined, if his Ma^{tye} prove not eminentlie mercifull to both, for he is decerned to pay sevintie thousand libs sterl: and upwards to ye King, for his embezlements of the mint and coynage, after a processe of compt and reckoning before ye lords of session: its sure, he will never ratifie that contract or minut with your Gr^o, for he says he will live out of Scotland all his days, ray^r then to homologat anie deed, by which

^a He died at Tunbridge Wells, Aug. 20, 1682. His brother succeeded to the Scotch Earldom, not to the English Duchy.

he will suffer Liddington to be carried away from his familie, and if by anie means a title can be found, by which he or his sons can enter to ye possession of the estate of Lauderdale, without regarding anie deed of, or right by his deceased brother, he wilbe sure to hold by it. My Lord Primat is your Gres true servand, and is sorrie for ye misfortunes of y^e D. of Lauderdales familie at his heart; the Chancelor is reallie a true friend and servand to your Gr^e, and to your interest; I am

May it please yo^r Gr^e,

Yo^r Gres most obedient humble servand,

JO: EDINBURGEN.

God Almightye blesse yo^r Gre and sanctifie all his providences towards yow.

Addressed :

Her Grace the Duchess of Lauderdale

At Whitehall

These.

CXLIV.—THE EARL OF LAUDERDALE TO THE DUCHESS OF LAUDERDALE.

[23249, f. 23.]

MAY IT PLEASE YR GRACE,

Edg^r, 6th Aprcill [1683].

It is my dewtie to give you an acompt off my lord Duks funerall and how it was gone about: the summe whereof was that yesterday 5th Instant being the day appoynted the companie lords & others first had dinner jn roums provideid for them And the noblemen's roum was hung with Blak & garnished with thos scutchions y^t cam doune contening my lords armes & yours. After dinner about ii aclok all went to sermon at Inveresk Kirk wher the B of Edenbruch preatched uere lernadly.

The bodie was placed in good order befor the pulpet and the

frends about it: At on of the elok the funerall (the bodie being in the Hearce covered with the pale or canobie) went in procession toward the Church of Hadingtoun And at 5 aclok that noble & Extraordinarie person was placed in his Tumb nixt to his father's bodie bot raised higher upon a Basse of ston maid of purposs.

Ther was present at the funerall tuo thusant hors at least: inso-mutch y^t they filled the high way for full four meils in lenth, ther was 25 Cotches; And most of this companie cam to the grave and although I wrot not above on hundred letters (being by the new act of parl^t limitet to that number) yet so wele was he beloved that the whole cuntrie keindly gave ther presence to the asisting in this last dewtie. On thing I most not omit that I wrot a letter to E. Tweedall & another to Lo: Yester Inviting them to the funerall Bot naither of them cam. they went publikly out of Edg^r the day befor & tuk leve y^t day of all the staitis men solely and publikly and discharged ther freinds to be present as they wold not disbledg them and considering E T & his sons pretensions whatever they be: this & aftermatters is strang cariadg.

As to other particulars I leve them to y^r frends & to y^r servant M^r Masters to give acompt of what I have mentioned As it was deutefully performed so it is hier as dewtefully given acompt of by,

May it please y^r Grace,

Yo^r Most fathfull & most humble servant,

LAUDERDALE.

APPENDIX.

I.—THE REV^d. JOHN LAW TO LADY CARDROSSE.^a

MADAM,

Boghoe, December 28, 1670.

Having the occasion of the bearer I thought good to give your La/ ane account of what past at the meeting betwixt Bp. Leyhtoun & the ministrie in the Wast Kirk[?] held at pasley the 15 of this instant. Upon the Wednesday the ministers mett amongst themselves befor they mett with the bishop, and agreed that M^r John Beardie in name of the rest should declare that they were not satisfied to embrace the proposalls. At two afternoon the bishop and they mett, who had uith him M^r Gilbert Burnett and M^r James Ramsey,^b uith Sir John Harper and the provost of Glasgow uitnesses. After that M^r Mathew Ramsey had prayed, the Bishop had a discourse neer an hour's lenth, when he asserted most confiden^{ly} episcopacy and cryed down presbyterian government & pressed the accomodation partly with threats and partly with flatteries. After which M^r Beardie in name of all present declared they were not satisfied to accomodat, which being done M^r Ralph Hedges rose up and had a most pertinent discourse shewing that the government of the Church was such a thing that they could not but be tender off, seeing it was the government instituted by Christ, and for episcopacie he could not see but it is contrary both to scripture and the practise of the primitive church for the first 300 years. The Bishop said if they uould prove that he suld com

^a From the Collection of John Webster, Esq., M.P. It is an account of the last attempt at accomodation by Leighton with the Presbyterian irreconcilables. A full account of Law, who was conspicuous among his fellow-ministers, will be found in Dr. Scott's *Fasti Ecclesie Scoticae*. He died Dec. 26, 1712, aged 80. He was one of the "outed" ministers of 1662, was apparently restored in 1679; in 1694 he was Moderator of the General Assembly.

^b Dean of Glasgow.

over to them, whereupon Mr Alex^r Wadderburne rose up and offered to prove it. The Bishope pretended weariness and desired Mr Gilbert Burnett to reply, which he did in an ostentive manner. Mr Wadderburne rose to reply to him, but the Bishope had no will to goe further and stopt him. After which Mr George Hutcheson gav a very free and full discourse, and told the Bishop that he now saw where to the accommodation tended, namely to bring them on to him and to cause them have better thoughts of episcopacie, and at lenth to burie presbyterian government with their oun consent. Mr Mathew Ramsey also spake most freely, but Mr Alex^r Jamisone did so oppose the bishope that he ran out of the roome and held up his hands, crying " I see there will be no accommodation." Mr James Nasmith spoke also most freely and wisly. After all the Bishop consented to give his proposalls in uritting and against the eleventh of Januarie they ar to give ther answers with the reasons in uritting for not accepting them. The result of all was that they gave worse thoughts of the Bishop then formerly, and he of them, and that he dispaireth now to doe any good with them. After he was gon they mett amongst themselves. Mr Ralph was mad moderator and they resolved on a generall meeting at Kilmarnock for giving in the reasons. Madam, this is the account I have receaved of that matter word by word,^a and it does much satisfie me that ther is so much straightnes yet to be found in our worthy ministry. I am hopeful it will give a barbsett (?) to some of the uicked designs that hes bein a foot. I hop your La/ will excuse me for troubling you so much in writt, but I know your La/ wad be desyrous to hear of what past. My wife and I hes our very humble service presented to your La/, and thus I am,

Madam,

Your La/ much oblidged servant

in the Lord,

JO: LAW.

^a Wodrow's account, vol. ii. p. 180, is evidently derived from the same informant. See also Burnet, i. 295.

II.—RICHARD BAXTER TO THE EARL OF LAUDERDALE.

[32094, f. 263.]

MY LORD,

No date [before 1672].

Yo^r extraordinary respects & favo^{rs} have made it my duty to be more than ordinarily tender of yo^r *soule* & *honor*: Having of late bin often put upon serving you as to the *later* behind yo^r backe, according to my capacity, I am assured (with respect *to both*) it is my duty to let you know the occasion: & faithfullnes forbiddeth me to conceale from you the words of great dishon^{or} that are (I doubt not) injuriously spoken of you: ffor as yo^r Defense against an adversary behind yo^r backe is difficult, though you were acquainted with his proceedings, so, when you know nothing of them, it is next to impossible. And the course of the world tells me, that its like enough that a thousand will speake ag^t you to others, before one or two will faithfully acquaint you with it. How ever no man being more obliged than I, no man can be expected to be more willing.

The first aspersions I told you of. Since then it is given out in generall, that you are so fallne from all that can be called serious religion, as that sensuality & compliance with sin is yo^r ordinary course: In particular that you use to take yo^r cups unto excesse, & some times unto drunkennes (& they instance when you went with the K. to see a ship) & that the sensualists are hardened by you, & that unto scorne, because of yo^r former professions of piety: And (to use their owne words) that you are not only corrupted but a corrupter; and they have made it too co^monly half-believed, that you serve others in an odious vice, which because of the quality of the persons, & the greatnes of the sin, I must not name, but by this much you may understand: & that in yo^r drunkeñes (I must use their words) you have offered yo^r service in such words, which are not to be uttered, but are thus secretly made the matter of yo^r reproach. It wounded me to heare of things so odious whispered

ag^t those whom you & I are so much bound to hono^r. And (for the Nation's sake, as well as their owne) God forbid it should be true of them: But of yourselfe I have still with confidence & detestation affronted such detracto^rs, & rebuked their reports as base & odious slanders: I found at first my words prevailed & got credit ag^t the obloquy, & so they do yet with many of those that I heare it from: but now it is got into the mouths of so many of both sexes & of all rankes, that it is not one mouth that can signifie much in yo^r vindication. The report comes from those that are not farre from you: I have made use of something that I have heard of the reporters (some of them) to prove their testimony incredible. But because it will do no good but hurt, & I cannot prove it my selfe (for the authors are no acquaintance of mine, nor will speake it to me), I desire you not to enquire after them (yet). When you know what is said, be it never so false, you will the better know how to carry your selfe: And even the slanders of enemies are not unusefull. To the more odious part of the aspersions as I never gave the least beliefe my selfe, so I could with the boldest negations, that besecemed one so distant to use, assure all persons that it was false. And I could tell them, that they that are not uppon the place, & see not what good or hurt is like to follow uppon the reprehending of a sin, are incompetent judges of another man's particular duty, & unmeet to censure him for the neglect. And yet knowing the danger of yo^r station, I am not without some jealousie least flesh & worldly wisdome should too much get advantage over you: but these jealousies carry me not to censure you, but to pray the more for you & thus to warne you. My Lord, as slanders are permitted by God in Mercy, to teach you what to prevent & to avoid, so I know you have the co^mon enemies of mankind to conflict with & to conquer if you will be saved: and I know yo^r temptations are many & strong; & you must be more than man, if you keep yo^r ground, without some more than ordinary care & watchfullnes & resolution. And, God forbid that you should lose that in prosperity which you gained in

adversity ! & that god who was neere you in a prison, should be put farre from you in a court ! If o^r hearts once say to him, *Depart from us*, its a sad prognostick that we may heare from him at last, *Depart from me* : God forbid yo^r *Durate* should prove the voice of flesh & not of faith, & end in misery : & that you have waited but for a snare, & for that destructive prosperity, which will shortly faile you, & prepare you for a more terrible passage into yo^r next and unchangable state ! God forbid, that it should be a night of greater darknes to you, when yo^r eclipse is past, & that now yo^r *opprimitur* should succeed that *premitur*. My Lord, I am not perswading you for the securing of yo^r soule to leave the court that you may escape temptations (Though if there were no other remedie, it were better cutt off a right hand or pull out a right eye, than perish). I know if all good men should do so on that pretense, they would but desert their trust, & the co^mmonwealth, & the interest of Christ ; as cowardly soldio^rs that will quitt the field for feare of being wounded ; or sloathfull workmen that will quitt the Vineyard for feare of doing their worke amisse. This were to give up all as deplorate. But I beseech you Watch, & *Walke with God* ! Lose not your hatred of sin, yo^r zeale for God, & tendernes of his hono^r. Never do that intimateth yo^r approbation of knowne sin ; or tendeth to incourage any in it : And may not sometimes a secret submissive faithfull admonition (that geⁿuously [*sic*] stateth the case before the forgetfull) do well : As I doubt not to find from you, so me thinks you might expect to find from others that [he that rebuketh a man (admonisheth him at least) afterwards shall find more favor than he that flattereth with the tongue] Prov. 28, 23. But this with submission to you that are on the place. But I beseech you that no interest prevaile in you, or get nearer yo^r heart than the interest of God, & yo^r soule : and that you never please any before him or to his displeasure : and that you so live as that the excellencie of faith & holynes (as well as Parts & worldly hono^r) may be conspicuous in you, & honoured by you : & the ungodly that observe you may discern

that the Heires of Heaven do live above the rate of worldlings. I beseech you, my Lord, grow not strange to God & Heaven : Let not the greatnes of yo^r employment seeme an excuse to you (ordinarily) for the restraint of prayer & some fitt proportion of Reading & Meditation. It were indeed a miserable life that should imprison yo^r soule in smoaky vanity & shutt you out from yo^r co^munion with God. This were to be debased below those poorest Christians, that in a cottage & in raggs have daily accesse to God in prayer & holy meditation : It were a miserable hono^r that should thus depresse you ! & a miserable gaine that should bring upon you so great a losse. O my Lord, do I need to tell you, that the fashion of this world doth passe (& hastily passe) away, & that it is only God that must shortly be yo^r peace & comfort, or you will be swallowed up in sorrow & despaire ! Do I need to tell you that all this glory will quickly set in the shaddows of death, & that all this sweeting will turn soure ! & how little it will comfort a departing soule to look back on prosperity, & how terrible it will be to reflect on a life of covenant breaking and unfaithfullnes to God ! I hope I need not mind you of such co^mon truthes ! But I find it so hard myselfe to be indeed what I resolve in sickness & distresse to be, that I am therby induced to beseech you, for the Lord's sake, to remember all yo^r promises, & pay yo^r vows, & requite not yo^r deliverer with forgetfulnes, neglect, or dishono^r. And remember that many eyes are upon you & that God deserveth at o^r hands that all Creatures & interests should stoope to his hono^r, interest & will, & keepe the freind that must stand by you when all worldly friendship failes. My Lord, it is the assurance of yo^r favourable acceptance of plaine & faithfull words, which inviteth me to use this freedome : My chiefe end is, for Gods hono^r, & yo^r everlasting peace, to desire you to make advantage of detraction, & avoid the appearances of evill : My next end is, that I may receive such full information & direction from you, by which I may be enabled most successfully to use my small abilityes & interest for the just vindication of yo^r hono^r, when backbiters &

slanderers make it necessary. I have not let any living soule be acquainted with this free addresse to you: But I acquainted one of yo^r most faithfull friends with the endeavors of the calumniator^s, who told me so much of the malice at the bottome as further enabled me to refell them. My Lord all this trouble is only from the sense of my great duty to approve my selfe

Yo^r Lordsh^{ps} faithfull servant to
his power,

R. B.

For the right honbl. the Earl of Lauderdale this.

III.—THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE TO JAMES DUKE OF YORK.

[23136, f. 9.]

Lethington. 4. 9^{ber}. 73.

Yo^r many expressions (w^{ch} my brother lets me know) of yo^r favor to me may justly challenge the returne of my most humble thanks, Yet I durst not have ventured to trouble yow with my insignificant scriblings if yow had not comāded it, Especially when I have so little to say. I have told the King that I came hither the same day fortnight after I parted wth him. His parl^t is to meet to morrow sennet, & I intend to goe to Ed^r on Monday. Sooner is not necessarie, secing I have spoke already with many of the most considerable of this kingdome. I have told his Maj^{ty} that it was very necessarie for him to have sent some bodie hither in this station, for their have been trinketings heir wth severall sorts of men. The disaffected heir have severall kindes of correspondents at London w^{ch} hardens them heir & they uent carefully such news as the disaffected in London wold have them, Yet seing the King's comāds to me are onely to quiet the mindes & secure the peace of his good subjects heir I shall studie to serve him as well as I can by letting the world see that this parl^t & kingdome are at his service. This is

all I can say till the parl^t heir doe meet; I pray God bless the King & his affaires in England & send yow much joy which none living wishes more then.

IV.—THE EARL OF DANBY TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.^a

MY LORD,

London, 18th Dec. 1677.

I received yesterday y^r Grace's of the —th instant, w^h one inclosed to the King, w^{ch} I immediately gave him, & this day hee did wth his own mouth order y^e Secretary to draw y^e Commission as you desired. I suppose you have already received his Ma^{ties} orders by M^r S^r Coventry to forbid all recruits for France, & in truth all things look here more like making levies against them. My L^d Dumbarton came hither Yesterday, but not to require levies, but on the contrary to inform y^e King of a discourse Mons^r Louvoy held with him about 10 days agoe as if he did beleeve they should have war wth England, and to know his mind in that case whether hee would stay wth them or return hither if the King should send for him. I must informe you that upon receipt of y^r letter last night, the King was so incensed ag^t S^r Geo. Monro that he said hee would send you immediat orders to committ him prisoner, but this day by my advise hee has been pleased to respitt his order till hee hears y^r opinion what may bee best to do with him, which by the King's comands I am to desire you to do by y^e first opportunity, & if in the meanetime you shall judge it best for y^e King's service to do itt, the King gives you leave and will confirme itt by his order, for I perceive his Ma^{ties} takes him to bee y^e most dangerous man that can bee att liberty in that kingdome. You see the King as well resolved as you can wish to do all things necessary for the peace of his kingdoms, & I do assure you was never better disposed

^a From Collection of J. Webster, Esq., M.P.

to distinguish his friends from his enemies. I am only sorry hee will not have y^e Bp. of London to bee Canterbury, but I beleewe will declair y^e Deane of Pauls in few daies uho is also a very worthy man.

Yours,
D.

Holograph, but unaddressed; endorsed
"The^r off England's Letter,
18 Dec. 1677."

V.—THE EARL OF MURRAY TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23138, f. 108.]

Whythall, Apryl 15, 1678.

Last night about fyffe cloke the Kinge cald for my Lord Colling-
toun & me to his bedchamber uhar his Royall Hynes prince Rupert,
the Duck of Monmouhe & Treasurer, uear with him & alittle ther-
after caem the secretarys & Lord Chamberline,^a he discoursed uithe
us ane hoour of the affaers of Scotland he tould us all had bine
sayed to him by thos he appointed to hear the paerty Lords & all
uas fully anssuerd The Duck of Monmothe sayd most in defens
of them & nixt to him Secretary Williamson. Coventry sayd littill.
His Majesty himself His Royale Hynes & Lord Treasurer uear as
foruard as any of us could be. Altho it be a littill smute I most
tell you. The King sayd to the Duck of Monmothe uho was
defendinge the uest country that he might winke & shyte ther for
ther uas not on of them better then another. in end the Kinge
tould us he uished that bussines in Scotland uear over & askit iff
uee thought it might be so uithin a fortnight. uee sayd uee kni
not bot it might, he sayd as affaers now stooud he uished us to
uryt as in the other letter uich is subscryfed by us bothe. The
King is earnest it uear over & My Lord Maenerd, My Lady, & all

^a Arlington.

of us wish the Councell doe put a clos to it uithe in the fortnight, & that an account of it be sent hear by the express so sune as possible. Many of the Members of the Hous of Commons ar bloued up by thes peoples fals calumnes that ar come up, so as the Kinge fears thy uill be hie upon it & wishes it past befor thy sit: this morning so sune as the Kinge was up I went to him & shoued the letter which he heartily approves of & wished me to send it away quikly; he had in his prospects the adjurment of the parliament which was done this day untill the 29: instant. The Commons sat after the Lords wear up till tuo aelok & wear sendinge to the Lords to joine in ane address for stopinge the ajurnment; but they wear up. Then thy appointed a Commity to sit duringe the recess to consider of the danger of the grouthe of popprye & then adjurned. The laet proceedings in Scotland beinge over befor thy meat agaen uill its thought quyet them much: bothe the Kinge & Duck wear as kynd to us this morninge as our hearts could wishe. when wee caem from the Hous I went to dyne with my Lord Maenird; he then shoued me a letter he had reseaved from your grace & tould me he had delyverd on to his Majesty which he apprehended put bothe the Kinge & dieuk in sune demure. I houp it was nothings bot the Houss of Commons bussines that was displeasinge, Yit thy apprehend it trysted ill at this juncture. Thy uill uryt of it more particularly themselves bot by ther advyse I have sent this express who is a servant of Mr Maetland's which was maed choies of becaus it would be least known & maek the least noice, & it is wished your Grace returne him so sone as possible. Sins urytinge the former paert of my letter I went to uaet on the King; befor my comeinge he cald my Lord Maenird & bid him uryt to your Grac & tell you he would order tuo troops of Hors & one of dragonns to northumberland so sone as possible; after my comeing he tould me the same: I mett his Royall Hynes in the gallery, & he sayed the Kinge had resolved as sone as possible to send tuo troops of Hors & one of draguns as yr Grace had desyrd, & aded that his Majesty would maentaen his Ministers & authorety over the Belly of opposition:

he hes commanded me to uaet on him tomorrow morning He is pleased to express more kyndnes & to taek mor notice of me then I can deserve & I [am] persuaded you uill fynd him as ueall as the Kinge verry firme to yow.

Adiw.

VI.—ARCHBISHOP BURNET TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23242, f. 7.]

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

Kingstreet, Ap: 27, 1678.

Sir George Lockhart and Sir John Cuningham came hither last night and are much caressed and courted by the party; but we doe not yett heare of my Lord Advocate. This day the E of Murray, Lord Maynard, Collington, and I dined at ffullham, where we expected my Lord of Canterbury his Grace, and intended to beseech him to call to him such as he thought fitt of the English Bishops, to be informed by us of the condition of our church, and to consider the danger to which themselves are exposed, if a stop be not putt to the spreading contagion; but his Grace came not: and therefor my Lord of London and I are resolved to waite upon him on Munday next, to beg the help and assistance of the English bishops in this our exigency. My Lord of Canterbury seemed to me very apprehensive of the danger to which they may be exposed if our adversaries be not cheekt and curbd. My Lord of London is firme as a rocke and as much your Grs/ servant as any man alive. Worthy Winchester is retired to ffarneham, and hath had two or three fitts of a syncope which is fatall; Rochester hath kept house these eight or ten days but hopes to be at the house on Munday next. M^r Churchill returned from the prince yesterday and a Dutch Ambassador was expected this day but whether he be come or not I have not heard. It is my owne humble opinion that his Ma^{ty} ought to call for your Gr/ before he enter upon the consideration of Scots affaires, and if I adventure to make this my humble sute to the King

or any of our friends here I hope your Gr/ will pardon me: for though every body here be both zealous and assiduous yett if your Gr/ were with us to appoynt every man his poast and to goe before us by your authority and example your presence would enliven all our motions and make our worke easy: if herein I erre or be mistaken I know your goodnes will pardon,

Your Graces

Most humble and faithfull servant,

ALEX: GLASCUEN.

VII.—ARCHBISHOP BURNET TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23242, f. 8.]

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

Kingstreet, Ap: 30, 1678.

The treachery of the Dutch, and peevish frowardnes of some here, putts us all to a stand and I feare may oblige his Sacred Ma^{tie} to take new measures: and in my poore opinion your Gr^s/ presence here never was (nor perhaps will be) more necessary then at this tyme. My Lord Advocate came hither last night late, and found us all waiting for him at your Gr^s/ lodgings, he hath kissed the King's hands but had found no opportunity to speake with his Ma^{tie} when I left the court this afternoone. We have need to be active and bussie, for here are many restlesse and vigilant sollicitors, very diligent in promoting strange stories, who are severe in their reflections upon us who attend here. This day I waited upon my Lord of Canterbury and others of the Bishops before they sate doune in the convocation, and have agreed upon the method we are to observe in our correspondence; to morrow I am to meet some of them at Lambeth, and I blesse God I find it no difficult worke to perswade them to owne and affect our interest; but till this cloud passe over little can be done in our Scots affaires. fforeign affaires looke with

a fatall aspect, and I feare we will not be found in a very good condition here at home, for I find men of good interest, and intelligence very doubtfull of the event. Where we goe we disperse the narrative,^a which hath undeceived and confirmed many of our friends. We are not wanting to doe what we can, but till I see your Gr/ here upon his Ma^{ties} call, I shall despaire of obtaining that which is so much wished and desired by

Your Gr^a/

Most faithfull and obedient servant,

ALEX: GLASCUEN:

VIII.—THE EARL OF MURRAY TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23242, f. 56.]

Whythall: May: 30: 1678.

Yours of the 23: instant I reseaved, and to every particular in it your Grace hes alredeye a full ansuer, yisterday beinge the King's Birthe day I have littill to say by this post: Report uent about Court yisterday morninge that some of the paerty Lords had kised the King's hand, I uent emediatly to speke uithe the Kinge bot could not have occation; Then I uent to his R. Hynes; He tould me thy had not nor uould the Kinge allow any of them to do it, I tould him I uas certinly informed D. Hamilton had sayd befor he uent from this he uould have the Kinge informed that unles ther grivansis uear redresed thy uould oppos the grantinge of any monny to the Kinge. He tould me the E. Perth & som others of them had sayd to him thy uould goe allonge in raesinge of monny. And sins I have from a good hand that most or all of them uill goe doune & concure to raess monny bot that thy desyne to propos ther grivansis in the ansuer to the King's letter to the Convention. This I uill not warrand to be truthe bot I have good ground to

^a See p. 116.

belive it: The Treasurer told me the same, & that he was sure the Kinge would not admite any of them to kis his hand. This morninge I spoke to his Majesty about L^t Gennerrall Drumond's^a letter which he rede over very caerfully & sayd it was not a good letter. When I told him what report went of ther kissinge his hand he sayd not on of them. Sins that I am told it was the E. Roxbruche bot I shall be at the bottom of it verry shortly. The Earles Craford & Haddingtoun went away this morninge, & they are now every day dropping away; whither the M. Atholl & E. Perth intends to goe or not I doe not know: but wee shall move the Kinge as you prescryfe in yo^r letter w^{it}he all the earnestnes wee can. The former still kips his lodgings pretendinge to be ill, & whither that may excuse him I doe not know, bot for the Earle he is a bussye spytfull man, & if he can I question not bot he will stay. I confes I lounk upon all theses faer promisis they give the Diwk of concurreinge in serveinge the Kinge in the Convention is only to softin them that they may not be proceded aganst in the interim accordinge to law, others are of another judgment & doe believe they really intend to concur in raisinge monny, that thereby they may persuad the Kinge to believe them forward for his service & to deserve his countinuans. I shall longe for your commands sins my stay here can now be of small use & I houp I may serve to better purpos in the Convention: M^r Forrester will informe you of what I will not tutch & sends you the jurnals of parliament. Roxbouche hes as the Bishop of Glasgow sends me word at urytinge herof, kised the King's hand. I will say no furder of it till tomorrow that I speke w^{it}he the Kinge. He goes away tomorrow.

Adiw.

^a See p. 151.

IX.—THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE TO THE EARL OF MURRAY.

[23242, f. 71.]

By the last yee knew y^t y^e Convention was adjourned to Moonday y^e 1 of July at 4 afternoon, & y^e Comittee to ten in y^e fornoone. The Comittee mett accordingly, & finding many objectiones given in by D. Ham. Lord Bargany & blantlyr, Ormeston, Bromhall & others against severall members, contrare to y^e receaved customes & methods of parliaments & Conventiones, as was found by search in the records, the Comittee unanimously agreed on a report to cutt of illegall objectiones which were incompetent & dilatory such as all of those contained in y^e papers were, & then y^e Comittee prepared a report on y^e three controverted electiones of Lanrick, new Galloway & Ruglin.

And likewise y^e Comittee considered the particular ohjectiones given in by D. Ham. and those other persones & unanimously found y^m all ether frivolous or illegall & kept them in y^e clerk's hands as minuts.

4 a'clock y^e s^d day The Convention mett. When the Rolls were a calling D. Hamilton interrupted questioninge fentries election, whose election none challenged before the Comittee. The Com^r his gr/ told y^t y^e house had y^e very last day voted y^t objectiones or single motiones could not be sufficient to debarr a member from voteing; next Gordenston for Sutherland desyred his vote, & D. Ham: s^d y^t it was hard y^t on of on syde should be admitted & on of another syde rejected. The Com on this said that he desyred his Gr/ y^e D. of Hamilton would not insist to name on syde & another syde; y^t he hoped they were all of on syde, & y^t speaking of on & another syde looked like partying which he hoped none would owne.

The Committees report for Stodwart Comissioner of Lanerk was reported, allowing his election; which was approved. Next came in y^e report anent Dicksons for New Galloway, which rejected him

as not residentur nor actuall merchant in y^t towne; & this upon y^e Act of Burroughs approven & allowed by his Ma^{ties} letter; which exception was acknowledged by y^e s^d Dickson both befor y^e meeting of burroughs & y^e Committee; but beeing prompted oyr wayes ere y^e Conuen: did meet told he was ane heritor, & beares burden as others of y^e towne & y^t others of his quality were Comissioners formerly & admitted.

D. Hamilton seconded & s^d y^t the report running on y^e act of burroughs wherby burroughs were ordained to choose none to represent them but residenters & actuall traffiquers might be remitted back to y^e Committee since he thought burroughs had no power to doe so, as beeing a restriction on freedome of electiones to parliaments & Conventiones.

The Comissioner s^d y^t y^e E. of Drumfries had observed y^e samin [?] of not trading against anoy^r burrough, but y^t he hoped y^t not y^e burroughs singly but y^e King himself had ordered & appointed who should be received as burgesses in these meetings & desyred the K^s advocatt to clear his Ma^{ties} interest in this effaire.

D. Ham. desyred y^t it might be forborn to inquire heer y^t y^e King might doe by his letter, incapacitating men to be members of Conventiones & parliaments for ther had been too much of that of late.

The Advocat s^d that y^e King himself is y^e fountain of Jurisdiction in our Government & his right it is to determine who should be his Counsell, y^t it is determined by 33 act ii. parl. Ja. 6, it is statut y^t ther shall be no confusion of the three estates of y^e Kingdome, so y^t no Nobleman should act as a Baron, nor no Baron as a Burges et contra, & should only be employed as on of y^t estate wherein at y^t tyme he is called by. And y^t all knew y^t y^e Com^r of New Galloway was never repute a burges or traffickinge Merchant. And our errand heer beeing to offer money to suply his Ma^{ties} just ocasiones, is it just y^t a person who is knowne to be ane Advocat & no Merchant should offer money in name of y^e burgeses of New Galloway the King on acc^{tt} of traffick granting this priviledge

to them to sitt in parl. & Conventiones ; nor seemes it good maners to question the King's interest & will in this particular in contests twixt two estates, since none of them could judge other, it resolved naturally in the King's majesty to judge on rules betwixt y^m.

The Com^r ordered y^e Act of parl. to be read, which done, he desyred y^e report of y^e Comittee to be putt to y^e vote.

D. Ham. opposed its voteing, desyring it might be remitted to y^e Committee, & desyred a vote on his overture. The greater part of y^e members calling for y^e state of y^e question to be, approve y^e report or remitt: but D. Ham. violently urging his overture, the Com^{rs} Gra/ calmly condescended & desyred y^e question might be as D. Hamilton proposed: The vote caried no remitt by 146 votes & 32 for y^e remitt whilst D. Hamilton too violently hindered y^e state of y^e question which y^e Chanceler & major part desyred. The Chancler s^d it would make 2 votes of q^t was naturally on & so forslowed busines. D. Hamilton s^d he would be found as ready to hasten y^e king's service as any y^t seemed to hast. The Chancler briskly replied y^t a very short tyme would clear y^t. Then y^e report of y^e Comittee was read againe & y^e question stated Approve or no/ which Duk Ham. interrupted & refused to vote in it: yett y^e report was approven by 146 votes, albeit 7 or 8 lords did imitate y^e Duk in not voteing: viz: pearth Southeske, Hadingtoun Quensberry Tweedall Dumfrees & Kenmoor and some few others. After this the Generall report of y^e Comittee was read which is heerw^t sent. On which y^e Advocat said That upon y^e many objectiones given in evry man might object against evry member, which would consume so much tyme as might defeatt y^e end of Conventiones, it beeing only for present suply to y^e King for on ill humored member might object against all y^e Bishops Noblemen barones etc: & if these most be discust ere wee enter to grant suply six yeares cess might be spent ere six moneths cess were granted, for all Electors & elected might be putt to putt [?] before the Convention all there evidents: That our predecessors were wise who made enquiry anent electors by y^e barones themselves in ther severall

shyres, who are only competent: who are ther peers, & in this by y^e law of Scotland barones could only be judges, since in scotland all men are regularly judged by ther peers in prima instantia, & if another way should be followed, so much tyme should be spent in disputing electiones, as our country should be left naked ere wee could grant y^e necessary suply, for y^e releef & defence of y^e Kingdome, but wher ther are crosse electiones & y^e barones divide, this makes ane appeal to y^e Convention, which then is y^e judge concerning y^e validity of such ane election; so wher ther are none contraverted or cross electiones or no solid objectiones instantly verified, Comissiones ever wer & are to be sustained by y^e Convention. Bargany spok against y^e Advocat, alledging ther was no danger in this kingdome from ill humored men & s^d many words, but to no purpose, which y^e Convention regarded not.

Albeit ordinarily the reports of y^e Committee & not y^e minuts of q^t past ther was used to be read to the Convention; yett to satisfy, & to convince all, y^t y^e Committee went on rationall grounds. The Comissioner desyred y^t y^e minuts might be read which concernd the particular objectiones, given in by y^e for s^d persons. D. Hamilton desyred evry particular of these objectiones concerning evry particular member, might be againe debated in the Convention. The President of y^e Session s^d y^t y^e sense of y^e Convention should be first had, whether they would approve y^e report of y^e Comittee or not, & y^t y^e applying of it to y^e particulars will satisfy all y^e objectiones safcing on concerning y^t of Invernes. Heer S^r Alex^r Bruce of Broomhall s^d y^t he would instantly prove against y^e persones he objected against by y^e Com^r of Lithgow and Queensferry because Lithgows Com^r was no traffiquer ther nor residerer & y^t of Queensferry, not legally chosen, which he repeated 18 tymes. To whom it was answered, y^t if they were not concluded by y^e report of y^e Comittee, they should be particularly considered & admitted or rejected accordingly. S^r Geo. Gordon s^d as to y^t particular of y^e Com^r of Invernes, y^t albeit heer ther was a new election notwithstanding of y^e election formerly made in y^t shyre at

Michaelmas, & y^t on y^t acc^t y^e election of on Murray in Perth was casten. Yett the Committee found a great disparity in so farr as that in perth ther was a Commissioner who adhered to his Co^mission, but in Invernes ther was no Co^missioner competing, that in Perth ther were two Co^missioners presented to y^e Convention, but in Invernes only on. That the Com^r for Invernes who was chosen at Michaelmas did by writt under his hand repudiat his Co^mission ; wheras he of perth adhered to it. So y^t as perth could not choose Invernes did ther duty to choos. D. Ham. s^d he did protest & take instrument, y^t he had legally offerd objectiones agst members & y^t he offerd to proove them, & y^t he was reflected on in y^e report of y^e Comittee & required ane extract of his instruments. The Co^missioner answered y^t there were no objectiones given in but which were or should be legally considered & y^t out of good nature he had allowed y^e minuts of y^e Comittee to be read ; yett these not beeing formed into ane act of ye Conventione, were not to be protested against, because they were privat opinions & no Acts of y^e Conv^t. But if the D. Ham. would wait till y^e report of y^e Comittee should be approven or not he might then require ane extract which should not be denyed, but if y^e Clerk Reg^r did give extract of any thing as ane Act of y^e Convent. or Comittee which was not, he should be a false nottar.

Tarbet said, y^t he had as on of y^e Comittee declared at first y^t the minuts were not a report of y^e Comittees, nor owned by y^m as to ther words beeing hasty notes written by y^e under Clerks & if any word seemd unfitt or disrespectfull they disowned y^m & y^e Register amended y^m ; but y^t by straying from y^e method wee fell on extrinsick debates whilst naturally y^e report was y^t qhich was befor us, & y^t y^e minuts were read only to inform how unfitt it were to follow the course of examining all particulars, whilst y^e groounds of y^e objectiones were not competent since albeit they were instantly verified as was offerd, yett if they were not competent they imported nothing ; & y^t if the Convention judged the groounds contained in y^e report fitt they might approve it, if not they might

reject it; for then it would be clear what was competent what not, & so much tyme should be safed. The Lo/ Threasurer Deput & Justice Clerk seconded what was s^d. At last w^t much debate it was brought to y^e question, Approve y^e report or not, & it was approved by 142 votes & 20 nos. D. Ham. s^d y^t all y^e electiones might have been determined ere now if wee have sitten fornoon & afternoon. The Com^r answered y^t he was sure he had sitt in Committee or Conventiō evry day from 8 in y^e morning to 8 at night except at dinner, & y^t he spent most of y^e night in giving acc^{ts} to y^e King when other members were asleep.

2 July, according to y^e Comissioners appointment the Committee did meet be 10 a'clock & prepared the reports anent y^e electiones of Aire, Renfrew & sterling shyres to be reported to y^e Convention in y^e afternoon.

4 a'clock y^e s^d day. The Convention mett after calling of y^e rolls. The Comissioner declared y^t yesternight he had received ane order from y^e King to seaze the person of S^r Patrick Home of Polwort & to comitt him which he had this morning obeyd.

The report of y^e Committee rejecting a Commission from the shyre of Aire to S^r Johne Cockran & S^r Johne Cuninghame to represent them at this Convention, was read. The reasones in y^e report were, because y^e Comission wanted these necessary solemnities, viz: the subscription of y^e Clerk of y^e meeting y^t beeing required by ane express Act of parl: viz. 272 Act: 15 par. Ja. 6, and likewise the name of y^e writter was not insert in y^e body of y^e writt, without which writts are declared null by . . . act of y^e . . . parl. King Ja. 6. Before any thing was debated on this report His Gr. the Com^r s^d that befor any thing be s^d on this report I shall desyre to cleare somethinges to prevent any unnecessar debate y^t might arise. I am weell informed, & many heer know it to be true, y^t great paines is taken to infuse jealousies into weell meaning men's heads, nay they spare not to inform confidently a gross imposture qhich is nether possible nor true, for they spare not to inform impudently y^t ther is a designe to premise in this Act of suply of q^t is to be

given to y^e King, ane approbation of what hath been done by y^e Councells these 6 moneths bygone. This is impossible because a Convention can give no confirmation to what y^e King or his privy Councell have done: & in y^e next place, for qhen yow shall hear, y^t he positively comands us to medle w^t nothings bot y^e suply. Therfor to quiett all sober mends minds & to silence such seditious lyes, I doe as the K^s Com^r in this place declare y^t nether in debates report or any act ther shall not be mention made by y^e King's officers, by y^e Com^{it}tees, lawbarons, or by me, ey^r of bands, lawburrows, proclamations, hornings, or registrations of hornings on these accounts. This I hope will satisfy all honest & sober men & silence such seditious calumnies. And if after this so solemn warninge, any whosoever shall adventur to start or bring in such matters, I will crave leave to interrupt & to hinder it.

Then S^r Jo. Cuningham s^d, Air beeing a considerable shyr, a com^{is}sion from so many hands in it should not be rejected: the law appoints Com^{is}sioners to be chosen in a full Convention of y^e barrons, which his was, & it could not be rejected for want of a Clerk's subscription, because the Clerk's subscription was as he presumed fresh brought in to suply y^e defects of such electors as could not writt, but when all actually signe, the subscription of a Clerk is needles. Againe the subscription of a Clerk is gone into desueted particularly in y^e shyre of Air, where Com^{is}siones were not in use to be so signed, & alledged y^t it was so in oy^r shyres; and y^t y^e act of parl. requiring y^e subscriptione of y^e Clerk was in desuetude, as many other things required in elections be Acts of parliamt. were: such as Residence is by act of parliamt. required in y^e barones chosen which is gone in desuetude. Then electiones by act of parl. were to be on writts issued from y^e Chancery & returnd to it which is also gone in desuetude. And as to y^e want of y^e writters name, tho ther be ane Act of parl. requiring this in all writts of consequence, yett our Com^{is}sion is warranted by y^e custome of our shyre which was not in use there. And if a

Comission thus warranted shall be rejected, the Comissiones of many shyres heer may on y^e samne groonds be cast.

The Advocat replyed y^t by this debate y^e justice & candor of y^e Committee did clearly appeare, it searcht for no defects in Comissiones, unless competition foret it. The defects of y^t comission appeared clearly by y^e law, viz: y^e first Act of p. which he read & said y^t if it had been expressly new drawn to exclud this very comission, it could not be more clearly exprest: for it gives y^e indispenible form of electing Commissioners by y^e subscription of y^e Clerk, & this is armed by a sanction declaring evry Comission void, y^t wants it. And this law is founded on solid reasone, Conventiones et parliam. beeing in hazard to be imposed upon by more names or other names then are free holders, or ought to elect, therfor they trust a publick servant who haveing y^e suit roll & records of y^e shyre most needs know who are majors, freeholders infest or denuded, & y^t some should be trusted in this important effaire is absolutely necessary, as wee have seen now in y^e instance of polwart's pretended Commission, where some names were superinduced, & some other names, y^t he himself declared he did not know: adding y^t in a point which concerns y^e fundamental constitution of parl. & Convent. wee cannot derogat from y^e coñion law by any nonobservance or desuetude. The Clerk's subscription is as necessary as ever because some now elect who cannot writt, & so need a Clerk: as to calling of par. by writts from y^e Chancery, it was by y^e law alternative either so or by proclamacione. And as for non residence, it is not taken away by desuetud, but by ane express Act of parl. añ. 1669. King & parl. mak y^e law; & wee most not allow y^t error or abuse in y^e people can take it away; & beside no case can be produced of a Commission w^out subscription of a Clerk y^t ever upon debate was admitted when objected against by any persone. As for y^e writter's name it is so necessar y^t a private factory cannot be sustained w^out it, much less dus publick factory which is of so great consequence. Ther wer some altercations on this but of no importance.

D. Hamilton s^d he hoped q^t was decided in on case would be allowed in another, but y^e Comission of Selkirk wanted a Clerk's subscription & yett was sustained. The Lo/ Com^r replied, y^t y^e cases were very different, for in y^e shyre of selkirk ther wer no double electiones as was in Aire, & it was found y^t y^e Comission of selkirk was subscribed by y^e Clerk.

Tarbat s^d that it is ane illegall commission which wants y^e name of y^e writter & subscription of y^e Clerk, & sure a commission which is conform to y^e law is preferable to on which is not agreeable to y^e law, for desuetude may tell y^t solemnities appointed by law are omitted, but y^t does not enervat y^e law. And y^e Comittee in y^e competition, had most just reason to say y^t y^e comission which was conform to y^e law was better & that of y^e two, y^t which was not conform should be cast.

After full 2 houres debate the question was putt to y^e vote & y^e report was approven by . . . votes, their beeing only . . . nos, so S^r Jo. Cochran & S^r Jo. Cuninghame went forth.

The report of y^e election of Renfrew came next, & by it S^r John Shaws election was preferd to y^e other, & y^e objectiones against S^r Geo. Maxwell were weaved because he was absent: which report was approven, & S^r Jo. admitted in comune forma.

Next came y^t of Stirlinshyre, which beeing a double election for Alba & Polmais, & y^e other Tuck & Kier, & after perusall of all y^e rights of y^e electors on both sydes there were equal electors found on each syde, & therfor y^e Comittee thought y^e Convention should determine by ther vote in y^t case. It was moved whither it should be remitted to y^e shyre to make new election, or no, which caried in y^e negative, so it was put to y^e vote whither of y^e Comissioners should be preferd. The Convention preferd Touch & Keir to y^e other two by . . . votes, thir beeing only . . . votes for y^e others.

The Comissioner adjourned y^e Convention till to morrow at 4 a clock in ye after noon, & appointed y^e Comittee to meet at 10 in y^e fornoon that day and declared y^t on Thursday morning be 11

aclock he wold deliver y^e King's letter & q^t he had further in comand from his Majesty.

By all which may be seen how violently they opposed evry thing & how litle ther opposition signified, & y^t it matters not much though they should oppose y^e matter of y^e suply since they & all y^e world sees y^t they can nether hinder nor stop any thing in this convention.

X.—CAPTAIN JAMES MURRAY TO THE EARL OF LINLITHGOW.

[23243, f. 44.]

MY LORD,

Aire, Apr^r 21, 1679.

Yours I received wpon friday last about 6 in y^e afternoon, & wpon Saturdayse night I sent three parties to y^e countrie for apprehending those persones included in my order, as alsoe I mead a search for those qo were recidentors here in Town, bwt all I gote wes one William Thomsone tenent in Monibold, ane active man in all y^e rebellious meetings, & swbstantiows, & one John Mackerrall in Mackelstowne tenent to y^e Laird of Kirk michell qo proffered 30 dollers to y^e coñmander of y^e partie to dispencc with his' escaipe. And in y^e Town I gote none but one Andrew Makelellin, Merchand, & y^e schoolmister Adamsone, all y^e rest bying flede, w^h maikes me verrie apprehensive of y^r intelligence, thowgch I cane not divyne q^t way, this day I have sent a partie to Wewing in disgwise, hoping to meet with some of those I cowlde not find here, y^r byng a great merket y^r. My Lord it is thowght strainge y^t in y^e shyre of Aire & Wigtowne y^r is not a mane intercoñwnded or declared fwgitive; I have received no coñmands concerning those two indwlged ministers y^e one intertaining Welch in his howse, y^e other in his pwlpite, y^r is one M^r Yownge licensed by y^e indwlged ministers contraire to lawe to preach at Cilmarnoch & ane other M^r Gilchryst in y^e Chwrch of Carsfarne which I jwdge a high

contempt of Awthoritie, lykwyse y^t Thomas Cennitie of Grange in Carrik hes been at severals conventikles & baptized childring y^r, thowgch he gaive in bond to y^e contraire to y^e comittie at Aire, lykwyse y^r is y^e ladey Cornehill a great interteaner of M^r Welch, & keeps a chapling, M^r William Wallis, q^o hes extreamlye ofstine been at those rebellicows meetings. My lord I cane name a great many gentlemen q^o hes entertained Welch, if y^e cownsell will say anay thing to yem, I wish with all my hart I had a generall order, for apprehending all thoise y^e have recefte Welch & others q^o have been lived irregwlerly & freqwents feild meetings & entertaines vagrant preachers, yen I showld bee jealowse of none^r for intelligence, but blaine my owne condwct in caise of noe successe, but Ill bege your lord^p pardone for this, q^o ame not in y^e least to prescribe rwles to your lord^p or his M^{aj}s Cownsell q^o wants not both airt & candore in all effaires. My lord wpon swnday afternoon I byng at sermone, y^r come a letter from my Lord Lawdine to me, showing y^t as he was goyng to chwrch he gote notice of some horsmen coming from Clidsdail q^o had sete wpon two of our sowldiers lying at a place calld y^e Clene, two mylls bee east Newmills, wpon y^e deficiencie for excise, y^e one of them wes killd y^e other mortally wounded, q^rwpon I imēdiatly comānded owt Cap^t Thachan with threescor dragwnes, q^o marched y^t night to Newmills, bwt befor he came y^r My lord Lawdine had sent for y^e sowldier wounded & kept him in his own house & browght a surgion to him, q^o I hope will bee weell, he byng shote thorrowgch y^e thigch, besyde blwnt stroaks, & y^e bodie of y^e dead man he cawsed presently provyd a cophin for him, this afternoon Cap. Thachane is retwrned, with this accompt,—abowt two in y^e cloak in y^e morning one sunday last, thoise rogwes came to y^e door q^r thoise two sowldiers were lying, & calld to yem to come owt, for they were rogwes & destroyers of god's people, & knocked verrie hard, q^rwpon they rose & one of yem imprwdently opened y^e door, at w^h two fired at him & shote him dead & took y^r armes, y^e other sayes he saw about 7 horsmen only, y^e goodman of y^e howse is

fede. My Lord Lawdine seemes to be verrie conserved & hes promised to use all meanes for his knowledge of yem, and I haive calld in all thoise small parties y^t were owt wpon deficiencie: y^r wes one swnday bygone a side night a great conventikle within two mylls of Glaistown, bwt a plaice unaccessable (by report) q^o heering of dragwnes bying so nigh, did not separat wntill night, y^t Cap^t Thachan wes returned, y^e minister wes Dowglase & y^r number of armed men wes 8 hwdred, q^o resolved to haive fowghtene, if they had been attacked, and every one I speak with of anay sense & reasone here does belcive that they will fight wpon y^e first occasion, w^h I hope shall bee shortly, it is storied they intend to keep y^t meeting of y^e Co^mittie of Cownsell at Lendrick: y^r is a fellow at Kilmnares swore y^r wold bee 10 thusand horse toogather shortly y^t wold cwte ws & all y^e bisshopes off, qom I haive ordered to bee apprehended, y^e accompt q^of this night I expect. My Lord I ame asshamed in byng soe proluxe and yet in dewtie I wes oblidged to acqwaint yow with all I haive writne q^o ame swrelye,

My Lord,

Your Lord^{sh} mwch oblidged serv:

JAMES MWRRAY.

Endorsed :—

Letter from Captain Murray to the Earle of Linlithgow anent the killing & wounding of the Kings sojers at New Mills.

XI.—COMMISSION FROM CHARLES II. TO THE DUKE OF
MONMOUTH.

[23244, f. 4.]

CHARLES R.

I command you to write this faire, and to signe a right docett.

C. R.

Our soveraigne Lord ordaines a Commission to bee past & expaad

under his Maj^{ty}s Great seale of his antient Kingdome of Scotland, whereby for the great trust that hee reposes in his entirely beloved Cosin and Councillor James Duke of Buccleugh & Monmouth, hee Therefore nominates constitutes and appoints him Captaine Generall of all his Maj^{ty}es Forces already raysd or hereafter to bee raysd as well standing as Militia, within his Maj^{ty}es said Kingdome, Giving & granting to the said James Duke of Buccleugh the full and absolute power of bringing together and exercizing the said Forces, the said Militia forces being alwayes to bee first raysed by his Maj^{ty}es express order and noe otherwise, and of dividing into partyes, squardrons or Briggads, & with them or any of them to resist all invasions either forreigne or intestin and to suppress all rebellions and Insurrections and to kill take and apprehend such as doe rise or make opposission, as alsoe with full power and Authority to the said James Duke of Buccleugh, to issue our Proclamations for receiving into his Maj^{ty}s mercy and Pardon all such enemyes and Rebels as will submitt themselves and lye hold on the said offer, Councells of Warr to call and hold by himselfe and other officers under his Command, and therein to punish according to the articles of warr, already past or to bee past by his Maj^{ty} for that effect, with power likewise to him as Generall to call for such armes & amnition out of his Maj^{ty}es stores as hee shall find necessary for his Maj^{ty}es service, & generally with all the powers dignities and preheminencies that are any wayes knowne to have belonged att any time to the said office of Captain Generall, and more especially with all the powers and preheminencies contained in the Commissions formerly granted by his Maj^{ty} to the Earles of Rothes and Middleton, which are all held as here express'd, Willing and Commanding all officers, souldiers, and persons whatsoever any wayse concerned to bee obedient and assisting to him in all things touching the due execution of this present Commission, as they will bee answerable to his Maj^{ty} upon their highest perill, which Commission is to continue in force during his Maj^{ty}es pleasure allenarly, and his Maj^{ty} ordaines this Commission to be extended in

the best forme with all clauses needfull, and to passe the great seale per saltum without passing any other seale or Register, for doing whereof this shall bee to the Lord Chancellor and to the Director of the Chancery a sufficient warrant. Given att the Court att Windsor this day of 1679, and of his Maj^{ty}es Reigne the one and Thirtyeth yeare.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJ^{TY},

These containe your Maj^{ty}es Warrant for a Commission to be past under the great seale of your Antient Kingdome of Scotland per saltum, nominating, constituting, and appointing James Duke of Buccleugh and Monmouth Captain Generall of all your Maj^{ty}es fforces already rayzed or hereafter to be rayzed, as well standing as Militia within your Maj^{ty}es said Kingdome, with all the powers, dignities, and preheminiencies that are any wayse knowne to have belonged att any time to the said office & more especially with all the powers and preheminiencies contained in the Commission formerly granted by your Maj^{ty} to the Earles of Rothes and Middleton, which Commission your Maj^{ty} ordaines to continue in force during your Maj^{ty}es pleasure allenarly.

Endorsed :

Duke Monmouth's Commission as General in Scotland, 1679.

XII.—PETITION OF THE COVENANTERS TO THE DUKE OF MONMOUTH.

[23244, f. 14.]

For the right noble and potent prince James Duck of Balcleuch and Munmuth Generall of his Majesties forces now in Scotland, The humble supplicatione of the Nonconformists in the west and other places of this Kingdome now in armes in ther oune

name and in name of all the rest of thes who adhere wnto ws in this Church & Kingdome of Scotland,

Sheweth,

That whereas we the presbyterianes of the Church and Kingdome of Scotland Being by a long continued tract of violence and oppression upon ws in our lyfes, liberties, fortunes and consciences, and without all hope of remedie, and being cutt of from all access of petitioning, and that by ane act of parliament of pouering furth our just grivances and complaints, and our lyfes being made soe bitter By cruell bondage as that death seamed more eligible then lyfe (The causes whereof we have pairtly mentioned in our declaratione) and being by unavoydable necessitie drivine wnto the feilds in armes in our oune innocent self defence, and now looking on it as a most favorable providence That your grace is come amongst ws at such a tyme, off whois princely clemency and naturall goodnes and aversione from shedding of christiane blood we have had soe savorie a report, we accept with all thankfulnes to God of this opportunitie to lay before your grace our sad grivances and humble requeists, All which we know will be misrepresented to your Grace By such as hes studiouslie (yett without any just ground except in the maters of our god) beine the principall actors of our sad and deplorable sufferings.

May it therefor pleas your grace to grant libertie wnder safe conduct To some of our number to adress them selfs to your grace To lay oppine our heart in this mater. That some speedie and effectuall redress may be by your grace's favour and authoritie made To the establishing of the nationes peace. In doeing wherof your grace shall doe that which is most acceptable to the lord, Commend your grace to the generalitie of the people as a reliver of the opprest and a seasonable preventer of all the miseries and ruines That threatine this poor land—yea and we doubt not shall bring wpon yow the blessings of maney thousands men women and childrine Tho not with ws yet sincere lovers of ws, sympathizers

with vs and favorers of our righteous cause, That the good lord may inclyne your graces heart to this is the humble desyre and earnest request

Of your graces humble supplicants,

R. HAMILTOUN,

in naim of the Covenanted army now in armes.

The originall petition of the Rebels, signed by Robert Hamilton their Comander, to the Duke of Monmouth, June, 1679.;

XIII.—THE SCOTCH BISHOPS TO THE DUKE OF LAUDERDALE.

[23245, f. 29.]

MAY IT PLEASE YO^R GRACE/

Ed. 12 D^o. 1679.

Wee are verie sensible of the constant and readie help, comfort and assistance wee have by yo^r G^d kynd endeavours for this nationall church upon all occasions and for w^{ch} wee doe return our most humble and heartie thanks, and assure your G^o of our most fervent prayers to God, that he may return upon yo^rself and your noble familie those rich blessings which are promised to, and entailed upon the true friends and helpers of his church and servands.

Wee have written to my Lords the Bishops of England the sense wee have of yo^r G^d zeale for the unities and order of this church, and of the releef wee find amidst all our discouragements from yo^r G^d pious and resolute assistance, and wee hope they will verie gratefullie acknowledge it.

Since the King's Majestie hath been graciouslie pleased to comply with our late proposalls in behalfe of the Church, and your G^o so readilie to dispatch them, wee must still beseech yo^r G^d countenance and help in maintaining what the King hath done upon so just and rationall grounds, in annexing the Par-

sonage of Farnell to the Bishoprick of Brichen ; if endeavours salbe used by anie hear to defeat so good and religious a designe.

Wee humblie crave leave to be remembrancers to yo^r Gr^e in behalf of Si^r William Sharp, the onlie sone of the late Primat, that he may be so considered by the King, as the world may take notice that our order and persons are owne^d and respected by his Ma^{tie}; which, perhaps, was never more necessarie then at this tyme. If any difficultie or doubt arise concerning the King's meaning, upon anie thing contained in his Ma^{ties} proclamation of ye date June 29 last past, your Gr^e will pardon us to transmitt our sense thereof to you, that by your G^s: help wee may receive from his Ma^{tie} such a favorable interpretation therof, as may best conduce for preserving the peace, order, and unitie of this Church.

Wee add no more, but the humble assurance, that as wee are truelie bound, so wee will ever in sinceritie bee,

May it Please yo^r Gr^e/,
Yo^r Gr^es most humble and
most faithfull servands,

ALEX: S^r AND:^a

ARTH: GLASCUEN:

JO: EDINBURGEN:

AND: DUKELDEN:

GEO: BRICHENEN:

AND: SODOREN:

^a Alexander Burnet succeeded James Sharp in the Primacy.

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